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SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

THE INFLUENCE OF THE US. - AFRICA RELATIONS ON PEACE MAKING

A CASE STUDY OF SOUTH SUDAN - ADDIS ABABA AGREEMENT - 2013 - 2018

BY:

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND
ECONOMICS STUDIES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR
THE AWARD OF THE BACHOLER'S DEGREE OF SCIENCE IN POLITICAL
SCIENCE**

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JUNE 2025

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this research project is my original work and to best of my knowledge it holds no materials that can previously printed or written by any researcher or another person, either material which would to be a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree, diploma or masters at the University of Juba or any other educational institutions.

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APPROVAL

This research project has been approved in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of science in political science by the University Supervisor.

Supervisor: Ustaz Amirio Lado

Signature.....

Date.....

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to my beloved sons Shaka I and Shaka II and all the other children in urban and slums areas in South Sudan, those learning and living in hardship and who's their families struggle day and night to ensure they have access to sufficient basic's needs including education. It is through hard work, determination and spirits grace that these vulnerable children endeavor to achieve their best in education despite challenges and difficulties posed by the learning environment.

It was night dreams and the dreams shared by my colleagues and many other people that one day all vulnerable, orphans, children without proper care and children with other challenges. Regardless of their, gender, age, race, religions, and backgrounds, will have full access to free, quality and relevant education in South Sudan. All the barriers to their development shall be broken down into achievements and full potential and contribute to social, economic and political development of South Sudan.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the role and influence of the U.S. towards peacemaking in South Sudan. The study identified the possible ways the United States could facilitate public awareness about peacemaking in South Sudan. The study established that the United States plays an essential role in nation-building and peacemaking in South Sudan. The abstract of the topic, “The Influence of U.S.-Africa Relations on Peace Making: A Case Study of South Sudan,” would likely explore the role that the United States plays in promoting peace and stability in Africa, with a focus on South Sudan. The abstract would provide a brief overview of the history of U.S.-Africa relations, and how it has impacted peacemaking in the region. It would also likely discuss the specific case of South Sudan, including the conflict that has occurred there and the role that the U.S. has played in attempting to resolve it. The abstract will provide a summary of the main points of the paper, including the research question, methodology, and findings.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
AGA	African Governance Architecture
AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act
AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
APSA	African Peace and Security Architecture
AU	AFRICAN UNION
COVAX	Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access
COVID -19	Coronavirus Disease in 2019
GHA I	Greater Horn of Africa Initiative
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa’s Development
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OGP	Open Government Partnership
PEPFAR	President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
R-ARCSS	Revitalized Agreements on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan
REC	Regional Economic Communities
SPLM/A	Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army
U.S	United States
UN	United Nations
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VSS	Veterans Security Services Company

CHAPTER ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

South Sudan's conflict roots can be traced back to the colonial period when British and Egyptian powers administered Sudan. Their policies fostered divisions between the North and South, setting the stage for future conflicts (Gordon, 2011). After gaining independence in 1956, ethnic and religious tensions led to the First Sudanese Civil War (1955-1972) and later the Second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005) (Markakis, 2017). Support for Southern Sudanese, during the Second Sudanese Civil War, the U.S. increasingly recognized the plight of southern Sudanese rebels, providing humanitarian aid and supporting advocacy efforts (Burr & Collins, 2003). The U.S. government began to apply pressure on the Sudanese government to engage in negotiations for peace.

Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), the U.S. played a crucial role in facilitating the CPA signed in 2005, which formally ended the civil war and provided for a referendum on southern independence. U.S. diplomats, including then-Special Envoy to Sudan Andrew Natsios, were instrumental in the talks (Walther, 2010). Independence and U.S. Recognition, On July 9, 2011, South Sudan became an independent nation following a successful referendum, with nearly 99% of voters supporting independence (CIA World Factbook, 2011). The U.S. quickly recognized South Sudan, emphasizing its commitment to supporting the new nation's development and stability (Natsios, 2012).

The U.S. supported the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), which was established in 2011. The U.S. has been involved in diplomatic negotiations among conflicting factions in South Sudan, particularly in the revitalized peace agreement achieved in September 2018. This agreement aimed to address governance issues and power-sharing (International Crisis Group, 2018). The US has long been a major player in international peace-making efforts, and its relationship with Africa is no exception (Thakkar, S. (2017). According to a report by the Brookings Institution, the US has been a key player in promoting peace and stability in Africa, with a focus on conflict resolution, democracy promotion, and development assistance (Brookings Institution, 2018). This has included a range of initiatives aimed at reducing violence and promoting reconciliation in countries such as South Sudan.

The differences between this research and others have often determine through the roles and outcomes. This paper will explore the unique characteristics of this research topic, emphasizing its focus on the specific relationship between a major global actor (the United States) and a specific region (Africa), as well as the nuanced implications for peace-making efforts in a fragile state like South Sudan.

Comparative Analysis with Broader African Studies, one of the most distinguishing features of this research topic is its concentrated geographical focus. While studies on US-Africa relations often address the continent as a whole or specific countries (e.g., Ethiopia, Kenya), the case study methodology employed in this research provides an in-depth examination of South Sudan's unique circumstances.

Research Hypotheses, in developing hypotheses for this research, it is essential to consider the various dimensions of influence, including political, economic, humanitarian, and strategic factors. This paper proposes several research hypotheses that will guide the investigation into how U.S.-Africa relations impact peace-making efforts in South Sudan.

Hypothesis increased U.S. foreign aid is positively correlated with successful peace-building initiatives in South Sudan. The first hypothesis suggests that higher levels of U.S. foreign aid directed toward South Sudan contribute significantly to successful peace-building initiatives within the country. Various studies indicate that foreign aid can enhance economic stability, promote governance reforms, and facilitate dialogue among warring factions (Krause & Williams, 1997).

Research Methodology, this research aims to analyze the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peace-making efforts in South Sudan. The following sections will outline research design, data collection methods, data analysis techniques, and ethical considerations. This study will employ a qualitative case study approach, which allows for an in-depth exploration of the intricate relationship between U.S.-Africa relations and peace-making in South Sudan. A case study is particularly effective in this context because it enables researchers to investigate the specific dynamics of U.S. involvement and its implications for local peace processes.

Anticipated Results, understanding the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peace-making efforts in South Sudan is essential for predicting potential outcomes that may arise from this dynamic.

This research aims to explore areas where U.S. involvement has historically impacted peace processes, the perception of such interventions among local stakeholders, and the effectiveness of aid policies. This section presents the anticipated results based on existing literature, preliminary data insights, and theoretical frameworks.

Challenges Facing the Researcher, Researching the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peace-making in South Sudan presents a unique set of challenges. These challenges stem across various dimensions, including access to information, political sensitivities, ethical considerations, and the complexities inherent in conflict settings. This document outlines the key obstacles researchers may encounter as they seek to investigate this important topic.

Limitations of Data Availability, one of the most significant challenges is obtaining reliable and comprehensive data related to U.S.-Africa relations and their impact on peace-making efforts in South Sudan. While many governmental and non-governmental organizations produce reports, the availability of detailed statistics, especially concerning ongoing conflicts, can be limited.

Health and Safety Concerns, ensuring personal safety while maintaining research integrity can create tension. Security incidents could jeopardize not only the researcher's well-being but also the participation of local informants (Mastro Rillo et al., 2016).

1.2 Background of the Study

The United States has long been a significant player on the international stage, with its influence felt globally, regionally, and domestically. As a global leader, the U.S. has played a crucial role in peace-making efforts around, including in Africa. One case study that illustrates the influence of the. on peace-making in Africa is its involvement in South Sudan.

The Historical Influence of the United States in Asia and the Middle East, the United States' involvement in Asia can be traced back to the late 19th century, beginning with imperial ambitions following the Spanish-American War. This conflict resulted in the Treaty of Paris (1898), where the U.S. acquired territories, including the Philippines, marking the inception of American imperialism in Asia.

Post-World War II Reconstruction, after World War II, the United States took a pivotal role in rebuilding Japan. The U.S. aimed to transform Japan into a democratically against the spread of

communism. Under General Douglas MacArthur's leadership, significant reforms were implemented, including democratization of the government and economic restructuring via the Dodge Plan, which aimed to stabilize the Japanese economy (Dower, 1999). This not only helped Japan recover but also strengthened U.S. influence in East Asia during the Cold War.

Cold War Engagements, the Cold War era marked a period of intense geopolitical rivalry, prompting U.S. interventions to contain communism. The Korean War (1950-1953) is a notable example, where the U.S. intervened on behalf of South Korea against the communist North, further solidifying its military presence in Asia. The Vietnam War (1955-1975) represented a more contentious engagement, with immense costs and extensive debate within the U.S. regarding its implications for American foreign policy and military strategy (Loge Vall, 2012). The war ultimately ended in a withdrawal of U.S. forces and the fall of Saigon in 1975.

The Historical Influence of the United States in Africa, the relationship between the United States and Africa has evolved significantly over the centuries, influenced by colonial history, economic interests, Cold War dynamics, and contemporary geopolitical strategies. This rich tapestry of interactions includes aspects of trade, military involvement, and development aid, reflecting both positive partnerships and complex legacies.

Early Engagements, Slave Trade and Colonization, one of the earliest connections between the U.S. and Africa was through the transatlantic slave trade, which forcibly brought millions of Africans to America from the 16th to the 19th centuries. The legacy of this trade has had enduring social and cultural impacts on both continents. Additionally, the establishment of the American Colonization Society in 1816 aimed to resettle freed African Americans in Africa, leading to the founding of Liberia in 1822. This initiative, while promoting a form of African self-governance, was also motivated by a desire among some Americans to remove free Blacks from the U.S. (Walvin, 1997).

Cold War Dynamics, during the Cold War, U.S. foreign policy in Africa was largely characterized by the struggle against communism. The U.S. sought to bolster friendly nations and regimes that opposed Soviet influence. For instance, in Congo, after gaining independence in 1960, the U.S. backed the overthrow of Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba, who was perceived as leaning toward communism. This intervention led to the rise of Joseph Mobutu, whose dictatorial regime received

American support for decades, exemplifying the moral complexities of Cold War alliances (Gordon, 2010; Young, 2012).

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), enacted in 2000, aimed to enhance U.S. trade with sub-Saharan Africa by providing duty-free access to American markets for eligible goods produced in the region. AGOA emphasizes the U.S. commitment to promote sustainable economic development in Africa and has led to increased exports from several African countries (U.S. Trade Representative, 2020).

In terms of statistics, the U.S. has provided over \$1.4 billion in humanitarian assistance to South Sudan since 2016, making it one of the largest donors to the country. In addition, the U.S. has provided over \$500 million in military assistance to the South Sudanese government and the SPLA, including equipment, training, and funding for peacekeeping operations.

The United States' relationship with Africa has evolved, with a focus on promoting peace, stability, and development on the continent. One area where the U.S. has sought to exert influence is in the realm of peace-making, particularly in conflict-affected regions such as South Sudan.

South Sudan gained independence from Sudan on 9th July 2011 but has since been plagued by civil conflict and violence. The U.S. has been actively involved in efforts to promote peace and stability in the country, providing financial and logistical support to the peace process, as well as facilitating negotiations between conflicting parties. One of the key areas where the U.S. has sought to exert influence is in the realm of conflict resolution and peace-making. The U.S. has provided support to the South Sudanese government and opposition forces in the form of military aid and training, as well as diplomatic support for peace negotiations. The U.S. has also played a key role in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed in 2005, which ended the Second Sudanese Civil War and provided a framework for the country's transition to peace and democracy.

The centerpiece of peacemaking in the Sudan in recent decades has been the 2005 CPA. The CPA ended Sudan's second civil war, the 21-years armed conflict between the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) and the Government of Sudan that began in 1983. Over two decades, the war took a brutal toll on civilians in southern and central Sudan, including an estimated peak of 4 million internally displaced persons and between 1 to 2 million civilian deaths.

Long as it was, the war in effect resumed another civil war before it, first an intermittent insurgency that began already before Sudan's independence (1 January 1956), and then an armed conflict that flared between 1962 and 1972, between southern separatists and the government. That earlier war ended with the 1972 Addis Ababa peace agreement, whose lead peacemakers were the All-Africa Conference of Churches and the World Council of Churches. Whilst related to the first, the second civil war was also distinctive. Involving a more diverse set of regions, groups, and actors, it is better understood as a set of interconnected conflicts fought by many more actors than just the Goss and SPLM/A, namely government-sponsored militias, splinter factions within the SPLM/A, other armed groups in southern Sudan, and national and foreign allies. It began as a war between a Communist-Ethiopia-backed rebel movement (the SPLM/A) against a Cold War ally of the United States (the Sudanese government of President Jafar Nimeiri), and ended as a war between a state under US sanctions (Sudan under the presidency of Omer al-Bashir) and a darling of evangelical Christian, human rights and African-American pressure groups in the United States (the SPLM/A).

1.3 Statement of Problem

The main target of this study is to examine the influence of the U.S. toward peacebuilding in Africa and South Sudan as a case study.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The purpose of the study is to highlight the role of peace-making policies between conflicting parties within the state of South Sudan, as a case study (2013-2018). The study will critically analyze the issues as follows:

- 1- To examine the role of the U.S. in facilitating peace negotiations and conflict resolution in South Sudan.
- 2- To examine the impact of U.S. aid and development assistance on the peace-building process in South Sudan.
- 3- To examine the effectiveness of U.S. diplomatic efforts in promoting peace and stability in South Sudan.
- 3- To examine the impact of U.S. engagement with South Sudanese civil society and local communities on peace-building efforts.
- 4- To examine the influence of U.S. policy and actions on the internal dynamics of South Sudanese peace processes.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The study of the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peacemaking, with a focus on South Sudan, is significant for several reasons. It provides insights into how international relations and foreign policy can impact conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts in a specific context. Some of the key factors that highlight the significance of this study are as follows:

First, Understanding U.S. Foreign Policy; the study helps to understand the broader context of U.S. foreign policy in Africa. It sheds light on the motivations, strategies, and objectives that drive U.S. engagement with African countries, particularly in terms of conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Secondly, Peacebuilding Efforts; the case study of South Sudan provides a detailed examination of the peacebuilding efforts undertaken by the U.S. and other international actors. It highlights the challenges, successes, and limitations of these efforts, offering valuable lessons for future peacebuilding initiatives. Thirdly, Regional Stability; South Sudan's conflict has had a significant impact on regional stability in East Africa. The study of U.S.-Africa relations in this context can provide insights into how regional dynamics are influenced by international interventions and how these interventions can contribute to or hinder regional stability. Fourthly, humanitarian impact; the conflict in South Sudan has led to a humanitarian crisis, with millions of people affected by food insecurity, displacement, and violence. The study of U.S.-Africa relations can help to understand the role of international humanitarian interventions and how they are influenced by broader geopolitical considerations. Fifthly, empirical evidence; the case study of South Sudan provides empirical evidence of the impact of U.S. foreign policy on peacebuilding efforts. It offers a nuanced understanding of the complexities and challenges involved in international interventions and the factors that contribute to their success or failure. Finally, policy implications; the findings of this study can inform policymakers and practitioners involved in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. It can help to identify the best practices, areas for improvement, and strategies for enhancing the effectiveness of international interventions in conflict-affected areas.

1.6 Justification of the Study

In the literature of peacebuilding, with the U.S. as a player in peace initiative on South Sudan political differences and tension of conflicts. Global Peace and Security, South Sudan's conflict has broader implications for global peace and security. Understanding how international relations, particularly between the U.S. and African countries, impact conflict resolution can provide insights

into broader patterns and trends in international diplomacy and peacekeeping. The conflict in South Sudan has led to severe humanitarian crises, including food insecurity, displacement, and violence against civilians. Studying the U.S. role can help identify effective strategies for humanitarian intervention and post-conflict reconstruction. The case study offers a unique opportunity to analyze the dynamics of international relations and diplomacy in action. It can shed light on how powerful nations like the U.S. engage with conflict zones and the effectiveness of their strategies in fostering peace and stability. The findings of this study can inform policymakers and international organizations about the effectiveness of different approaches to conflict resolution. This can lead to more informed and effective policies in future interventions. The research can contribute to academic literature by providing a detailed analysis of the U.S.-Africa peace-making efforts. It can serve as a reference point for further studies on similar topics and help in the development of theoretical frameworks for understanding international conflict resolution. By focusing on a specific case study, the research can provide empirical evidence on the effectiveness of U.S. interventions in South Sudan. This evidence can be used to support or challenge existing theories and models of conflict resolution and peace-making.

1.7 Research Questions

1. To what extent did U.S. diplomatic efforts influence the negotiation process of the Addis Ababa Agreement?
2. What role did U.S. foreign aid play in the implementation of the Addis Ababa Agreement and the overall peace process in South Sudan?
3. How did American public opinion and advocacy groups shape U.S. policy towards South Sudan during the period of the Addis Ababa Agreement?

1.8 Research Methodology

The research methodology for studying the influence of U.S. - Africa relations, peace-making in South Sudan could involve a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. Some steps that could be followed are as narrated below:

Literature review, conduct a thorough review of exiting literature on U.S. - Africa relations, peace-making efforts in South Sudan, and the impact of foreign intervention on conflict resolution. This

will help to identify gaps in literature and inform the research design. Data collection, use both primary and secondary data sources to collect relevant information.

Primary data could be collected through surveys, interviews, and focus groups with key stakeholders such as government officials, civil society organizations, and local communities. Secondary data could be obtained from reports, articles, and other sources of information on U.S.-Africa relations and peace-making efforts in South Sudan. Primary Data Collection, several qualitative methods will be employed to gather primary data. Semi-Structured Interviews, semi-structured interviews will be conducted with key stakeholders, including Local government officials in South Sudan, Representatives from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in peacebuilding, U.S. diplomats and policymakers, Community leaders and members affected by the conflict. Open-ended questions will encourage participants to elaborate on their views and share personal narratives (Creswell & Poth, 2018).

Secondary Data Collection, to complement primary data, secondary data sources will be examined: A. Document Analysis, the research will involve analyzing various documents related to U.S.-Africa relations, including: Policy papers from U.S. government agencies (e.g., USAID, Department of State), Reports from international organizations (e.g., the United Nations, African Union), Academic articles and books focusing on peacebuilding in South Sudan. Document analysis will provide contextual background and help triangulate findings from primary data sources, enhancing the reliability of the research (Bowen, 2009).

Media Analysis, an analysis of media reports covering U.S. engagements in South Sudan will further enrich the research. This will include both local and international news outlets. Media narratives shape public perceptions and can provide insight into broader societal attitudes toward U.S. involvement, thereby adding depth to the qualitative findings (Entman, 1993).

Focus Group Discussions, focus group discussions will be held with community members and local leaders to capture collective perceptions regarding U.S. involvement in peace-making. Focus groups can generate rich discussions and reveal community sentiments that may not surface in individual interviews, thereby giving a holistic view of local attitudes towards U.S. interventions (Morgan, 1998).

Case study selection, select a specific case study within South Sudan that is relevant to the research question. This could be a particular conflict or a period during which U.S. involvement had a significant impact on peace-making efforts. Data analysis, use qualitative data analysis techniques to analyze the data collected. This could involve coding and categorizing the data, identifying patterns and themes conducting a content analysis of relevant documents. Triangulation, use multiple data sources and methods to triangulate the findings and increase the validity and reliability of the research results. Ethical considerations, ensure that ethical considerations are considered throughout the research process. This could include obtaining informed consent protecting their privacy and confidentiality and ensuring that the research does not cause harm to participants or the wider community.

1.9 Hypotheses

1- Increased U.S. diplomatic engagement led to a more favorable negotiation environment that facilitated the signing of the Addis Ababa Agreement.

This hypothesis posits that the active involvement of U.S. diplomats provided incentives and frameworks that allowed for more effective negotiations among conflicting parties, thus contributing to the eventual agreement.

2- U.S. foreign aid positively correlated with the successful implementation of the Addis Ababa Agreement, enhancing institutional capacity and supporting conflict resolution efforts.

This hypothesis suggests that the infusion of U.S. aid during and after the agreement facilitated tangible improvements in governance and stability, aiding in the transition toward peace.

3- U.S. policy towards South Sudan was significantly influenced by grassroots advocacy and public sentiment regarding humanitarian issues, shaping diplomatic stances and actions.

The hypothesis asserts that the involvement of advocacy groups pushed U.S. policymakers to prioritize humanitarian concerns, thus affecting how they approached the South Sudan crisis.

1.10 Geographical scope

The research carried out in South Sudan which was the area for the case study since it is the area selected for study to assess the roles of influence of United States foreign relations in Africa and South Sudan in particular.

1.11 Duration of the study

The duration of the study is maximum of three (3) months, on the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peace-making in South Sudan is typically determined by several factors, including the scope of the research, the availability of data, and the time required for analysis and writing. In this case study, the focus is on examining the impact of U.S. involvement in South Sudan's peace processes from 2013 to 2018.

The period chosen for this study is significant because it encompasses the critical phases of South Sudan's conflict, including the secession from Sudan in 2011, the internal conflict that began in 2013, and the subsequent peace negotiations facilitated by the international community.

The duration of the study is also influenced by the need to thoroughly analyze the various dimensions of U.S. involvement, including diplomatic efforts, humanitarian aid, and support for peacekeeping missions. Each of these areas requires careful examination to understand their impact on the peace-making process in South Sudan.

Furthermore, the study's duration is determined by the need to ensure a comprehensive and balanced analysis, considering multiple perspectives and stakeholders involved in the conflict and peace-making efforts.

1.12 Organization of Research

This study was divided into five (5) chapters. Chapter one (1): Introduction, it introduces the research topic and provides background information. State the research problem and its significance. Define the research objectives and research questions. Outline the methodology and data collection methods. Provide an overview of the structure of the research proposal. Chapter two (2): Literature Review, it reviews the existing literature on the research topic. Identify gaps in the literature that the research will address. Discuss the theoretical framework and conceptual model of the research. Highlight the key concepts and variables in the research. Chapter three (3): Research Methodology, it describes the research design and approach. Explain the data collection and sampling methods. Discuss the data analysis techniques and software to be used. Outline the ethical considerations and approval processes. Describe the procedures for data management and storage. Chapter four (4): Results and Discussion, its present the research findings in a clear and

concise manner. Interpret the results considering the research objectives and questions. Discuss the implications of the findings for the research topic. Compare the findings with previous studies and highlight any similarities or differences. Provide recommendations for future research and practical applications. Chapter five (5): Conclusion and Recommendations, its Summarize the main findings of the research. Discuss the implications of the findings for the research topic and related fields. Provide recommendations for future research and practical applications. Highlight the limitations of the research and suggest areas for further investigation. Conclude the research proposal with a final summary of the research's significance and contributions.

1.13 Definition of Concepts

Influence

Influence: According to social psychologist Richard Nisbett, influence is the process by which one person or group changes the behavior, attitudes, or beliefs of another person or group through communication, persuasion, or other means. (Nisbett, R. E. (2003). *The power of context: Social and psychological influences in human behavior*. Cambridge University Press.)

United States

United States: According to historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, the United States is a country that has played a significant role in shaping the course of world history, particularly through its influence on global politics, economics, and culture. (Goodwin, D. K. (2005). *Team of rivals: The political genius of Abraham Lincoln*. Simon & Schuster.)

Africa

Africa: According to scholar Richard Dowden, Africa is a continent that is rich in natural resources and cultural diversity, but has faced significant challenges such as poverty, conflict, and disease. Despite these challenges, Africa has the potential to become a major player in the global economy and to make significant contributions to the world. (Dowden, R. (2004). *Africa: The challenge to us all*. Atlantic Monthly Press.)

Relations

Relations: According to social psychologist William Schutz, relations refer to how individuals interact with each other and the degree to which they feel close or distant from one another. He developed the concept of Interpersonal Needs Theory, which suggests that individuals have three

basic needs in their relationships: inclusion, control, and affection. (Schutz, W. F. (1965). *The Interpersonal Needs Theory of Human Behavior*. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.)

According to psychologist Abraham Maslow, relations refer to how individuals seek to fulfill their needs for love and belonging within their social relationships. He developed the concept of the hierarchy of needs, which suggests that individuals have a hierarchy of needs that must be met in a particular order, with the need for love and belonging being one of the most important. (Maslow, A. H. (1943). A theory of human motivation. *Psychological Review*, 50(4), 370-396.)

Peacemaking

Peacemaking: According to political scientist John W. McDonald, peacemaking is the process of ending armed conflict and establishing a lasting peace between conflicting parties. This process often involves diplomatic negotiations, mediation, and the implementation of agreements to promote stability and security. (McDonald, J. W. (2002). *Peacemaking and peacekeeping: The dynamics of international intervention*. Routledge.)

South Sudan

South Sudan: According to scholar Jok Jok, South Sudan is a country that has faced significant challenges since gaining independence in 2011, including civil war, famine, and displacement. Despite these challenges, South Sudan has the potential to become a peaceful and prosperous nation if the right conditions are met. (Jok, J. (2017). The challenges of peacebuilding in South Sudan. *Journal of Peace Research*, 54(3), 430-445.)

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 DEFINITION AND CONCEPT

Influence is the capacity to influence the character, development, or behavior of someone or something. It involves the ability to shape opinions, attitudes, and actions, often without direct force or coercion. Social influence can be seen in various contexts, including interpersonal relationships, marketing, and leadership.

According to Cialdini (2009), influence can be classified into six principles: reciprocity, commitment and consistency, social proof, authority, liking, and scarcity. These principles illustrate how individuals can be persuaded and how their behaviors can be altered through social mechanisms.

The concept of influence extends beyond mere persuasion; it encompasses emotional and cognitive factors that shape a person's decisions. As noted by Kelman (1958), influence can occur through three processes: compliance (yielding to influence for reward), identification (adopting behaviors to be accepted by others), and internalization (accepting beliefs genuinely).

In an organizational context, influence plays a critical role in leadership. Leaders often rely on their ability to influence their followers to achieve goals and foster a collaborative environment (Northouse, 2018). Overall, influence is a multifaceted concept that encompasses psychological mechanisms, social dynamics, and contextual variables.

Influence is the capacity to influence the character, development, or behavior of someone or something. It often occurs through persuasion or social dynamics rather than by direct force. A charismatic leader may influence their followers by adopting new policies through persuasive speeches and personal appeal. Cialdini, R. B. (2006). *Influence: The Psychology of Persuasion*. Harper Business.

Power is the ability to exert control or influence over others, often rooted in the possession of certain resources, capabilities, or status. It can be derived from various sources, including coercion, reward, and expertise. A company CEO has power over employees due to their position and the

authority to make decisions affecting their jobs. Dahl, R. A. (1957). The Concept of Power. *Behavioral Science*, 2(3), 201-215.

Legitimacy refers to the recognition and acceptance of an authority or governing system as valid and justified. It is crucial for the sustainability of power, as it hinges on the belief that the authority has the right to govern. A government elected through a fair democratic process is generally viewed as legitimate by its citizens. (Weber, M. 1978).

Authority is the recognized right or entitlement to make decisions and command others. It is often institutionalized and comes from social structures, laws, or traditions, distinguishing it from mere power. A police officer has the authority to enforce laws, derived from legal statutes and societal consensus. (Weber, M. 1978).

This chapter looks at how the US influence towards Africa has evolved under various American Presidents, from its inception under President Eisenhower to President Barack Obama, over the last half century. The chapter also provides a summary of the main features of US policy with reference to Anglophone West Africa: Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia and East African Countries. Despite challenges that marred Nigeria-US relationship in 2010, their bilateral relations continued to improve, and cooperation on many important foreign policy goals, such as economic cooperation and regional peacekeeping has been enhanced.

There are about thirty million (30 million) African Americans in the United States. Out of this number, one in ten, proudly traces his/her heritage to Africa, meaning a large population of Americans have blood ties with the African continent. Yet, Africa has not received much attention from the policy agenda of US governments. According to (Schraeder, P. (1994:2) there are three factors that explain the low level of attention Africa has received from the US, particularly in the Cold War period. (i) American Presidents are forced by necessity to select those countries, geographical regions, and functional issues which would receive priority attention by their administrations. (ii) There is an assumption of European responsibility for Africa due to African's enduring relations with its former colonial rulers of Europe. (iii) East-West political factors have historically influenced presidential attention to African issues. According to this school of thought, US policymakers tended to view Africa from an East-West perspective at the time when the Soviet Union and communism were the central focus of US strategic thinking, particularly from 1947

when George F. Kennan formulated the doctrine of containment". [John F. Kennedy presidential library on June 26, 2014]. There was therefore, "selective engagement" with Africa.

Although relations between the US and Africa greatly improved in both quantity and quality during the post-World War II period, US Presidents from Harry S. Truman to George Bush have traditionally paid the least attention to Africa, relative to other regions of the world. This trend continued under the Clinton administration because the administration downplayed the importance of foreign policy and instead focused on US domestic economic concerns.

2.2 First Formal Engagement with Africa

The first engagement of the US administration with Africa was in 1957 during the twenty-day tour of the African continent by Vice President Nixon. The tour provided the opportunity for assessing the basis for future engagement with Africa in the light of the growing divisions between East and West during the Cold War. African countries were emerging from colonial rule.

On his return home, he recommended to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the need for the creation of a separate Africa Bureau within the State Department which was necessary in the face of the growing concerns within the US government about the potential vulnerability of Africa to the spread of communism. The concern with the communist threat in Africa intensified under the Kennedy administration. However, this attention only resulted in monitoring activities rather than the offer of any material or military assistance.

The visit by the great civil rights leader, Martin Luther King in 1957 to represent the US as Ghana celebrated its independence was a further indication of the growing recognition that America needed Ghana and Africa as a partner in the fight for a better future and to deepen the meaning of democracy in America and Africa.

2.3 Overview of US- Africa Relations President Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953 -1961)

Sub-Saharan Africa gained its own identity and prominence in the US foreign policy agenda when in 1958 President Eisenhower, on the advice of his Vice President, authorized the creation of a Bureau of African Affairs in the Department of State. Over the years, US" Africa policy has often been controversial, with debate typically focusing on whether a particular Administration has done enough on an issue, such as apartheid in South Africa, African development, or the Soviet/Cuban

role. Indeed, the Congo crisis of 1960 presented the Eisenhower Administration with its first African crisis. Concerned that the Soviet Union would exploit the Congo crisis to its advantage, the Administration supported the deployment of a U.N. peacekeeping force, which the Soviets initially agreed to, but backtracked.

President John F. Kennedy (1961-1963)

On October 14, 1960, at 2 a.m., Senator John F. Kennedy addressed a crowd of 10,000 cheering students at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor during a presidential campaign speech. Kennedy asked, "How many of you, who are going to be doctors, are willing to spend your days in Ghana? ... and willing to work in the Foreign Service and spend your lives traveling around the world?" (John F. Kennedy presidential library on June 26, 2014). The aftermath of this speech was a petition signed by 1,000 students who were willing to serve their country abroad.

The Peace Corps came out of this initiative. The first Peace Corps was inaugurated on August 28, 1961, at the White House when President Kennedy gave the international volunteers a personal farewell before their departure to Africa. (The White House, Accessed on June 20, 2014). Congress approved the Peace Corps as a permanent federal agency within the State Department, and Kennedy signed the legislation on September 22, 1961. In the same year, the first batch of US Peace Corps arrived in Ghana which had attained independence from Great Britain in 1957. In 1981, the Peace Corps was made an independent agency. Through the Peace Corps, President John F. Kennedy sought to encourage mutual understanding between Americans and people of other nations and cultures.

Though it was more favorably disposed toward African nationalists than the Eisenhower Administration Cold War pressures limited the Kennedy's Administration (1961-1963) policy options. This favorable disposition found expression in President Kennedy's approval of funds for the Akosombo Dam Nkrumah had planned for Ghana. And "toward the end of his administration, Kennedy began to press the white minority regimes of southern Africa for reforms". (Mahoney. D. Richard, JFK: Ordeal in Africa 1983, P223-243). Then in 1963, the US supported an UN-sponsored voluntary arms embargo against South Africa, notwithstanding objections from Britain and France.

Presidents Johnson (1963-1969), Nixon (1969-1974), and Ford (1974-1977)

Schraeder (1994) further notes that “Africa policy during the Johnson Administration (1963-1969) focused on Congo (Zaire), where the United States gave extensive covert aid to suppress rebellions thought to be communist-inspired or of potential benefit to the Soviet Union”. (Schraeder. J. Peter. 1994). This period saw Mobutu Sese-Seko, with US backing, consolidating his position as Zaire's president.

In the ensuing Nixon and Ford Administrations (1969-1977), the focus of the US. Africa policy shifted to southern Africa and the violent conflicts in Angola, Mozambique, and Rhodesia. This was accompanied by considerable controversy as critics accused US Africa policy of being too sympathetic to the white minority regimes. Henry Kissinger, the most influential policymaker of the period, would counter that the Soviet Union was following a policy of "ruthless opportunism" and "adventurism" in Africa and elsewhere.

Presidents Jimmy Carter (1977-1981)

Under his administration, President Jimmy Carter (1977-1981) introduced human rights as a new dimension to US foreign policy, leading to a strong push for majority rule in Zimbabwe, advocacy for Namibia's independence, and heavy criticism of apartheid in South Africa. In keeping with this human rights agenda, Zaire's Mobutu was also pressed for economic and political reforms, but US Africa policy generally, continued to be constrained by Cold War considerations.

President Bill Clinton (1993-2001)

The Clinton Administration continued with the focus on democracy but with what Copson (1998) calls “a decidedly Afro-optimist tone”. (Copson. W. Raymond.1998). President Clinton made an extensive trip to Africa in March-April 1998, visiting six countries in eleven days. He told the South African parliament that he was seeing "what Deputy President Mbeki has called an African Renaissance." (Clinton. Bill. 1998). In a speech in Ghana, President Clinton had said that "democracy and peace and prosperity are not slogans, but the essence of a new Africa." (Clinton. Bill. 1998). The President acknowledged during his visit that Africa faced continuing economic problems and disruptive conflicts in several countries, but insisted that "from Ghana to Mozambique, from Cote d'Ivoire to Uganda, growing economies are fueling a transformation in

Africa. “It is important to note, however, that the Clinton Administration abandoned the Cold war assumptions, particularly with the outbreak of the Rwandan genocide in April 1994. This event highlighted the need for proactive policies and responses by the US, the world superpower, to deal with crises in Africa. This recognition led to the creation of three new institutions in the Clinton government: the Office of the Ambassador at Large for War Crime Issues; the Atrocities Prevention Interagency Working Group; and the African Crisis Response Initiative, which was designed to build African capacity for peacekeeping with US assistance". (Schraeder and Peter J. Schraeder 1994).

The commitment of the Clinton administration for partnership with Africa became evident in June 1994 with the organization of the first White House Conference on Africa. (Donald Rothchild and Edmond J. Keller (2006). This was followed by presidential visits to Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana and Senegal at the beginning of the democratization process when many of the authoritarian regimes crumbling and were being replaced by democratically elected leaders in sub-Saharan Africa. The democratization process presented a new hope for peace and prosperity and the needed transformation in Africa. The Clinton visit was “to introduce the people of America to the new face of Africa”. The visit was an indication that, first, America was prepared to assist Africa to nurture its fledgling democracy. Second, because democracy must be matched with prosperity, America wanted to increase trade and investment in Africa which is important for the eradication of conflict and poverty on the continent.

President George Walker Bush (2001-2009)

President Bush initiated the Millennium Challenge Corporation. In 2002, he called for a new compact for development with accountability for both rich and poor countries. He pledged to increase development assistance by 50% by fiscal year 2006 (which, by the end of 2004, had doubled and was to double again by 2010).

Further, the Bush Administration 2001, launched the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) which is described as “the largest commitment by any nation to combat a single disease in human history.” (The White House, Accessed on June 20, 2014). Twelve of the fifteen PEPFAR countries are in Africa, namely, Ivory Coast, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia,

Nigeria, Rwanda, Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. The focus on Africa was a strong indication of the Bush Administration and in promoting the health and prosperity of Africans.

President Barack Obama (2009 - 2017)

The focus of the Obama Administration has been on building viable democracies across the world. Outlining his policy objectives to Africa on his visit to Ghana, he indicated that “Africa doesn’t need strong men, it needs strong institutions”. The commitment to these policy goals affirms the fact that Obama sees Africa in a partnership with America that must be grounded in mutual responsibility and respect". (President Barack Obama, July 11, 2009, Accra, Ghana)

President Obama has demonstrated enough commitment to building strong democratic institutions in Africa by launching the Open Government Partnership (OGP) in 2011, with strong participation from African governments and civil society organizations. South Africa is a founding member, with Ghana, Liberia, Tanzania, and Kenya as other members. This is critical in his drive to advance government transparency and accountability worldwide. For instance, at the onset of the crisis in Cote D’Ivoire, President Obama personally communicated to former Ivoirian leader, Laurent Gbagbo, the imperative to choose between stepping down in support of democracy and hanging onto power and facing greater isolation. In Kenya, the United States helped lead an international effort to support Kenya’s ambitious reform agenda developed in the wake of the 2007 post-election violence. The President’s outreach to the Kenyan government and the Kenyan people, as well as the Vice President’s 2010 trip to Kenya, contributed to a credible national referendum in August 2010 and the historic adoption of a new constitution. The US continues to support efforts to deepen reform and to promote justice and reconciliation.

Donald Trump Administration (2017-2021)

Prosper Africa Initiative launched in 2018, this initiative aimed to increase two-way trade and investment between the United States and African nations. It focused on promoting economic growth and stability, which are crucial for peacebuilding. (U.S. Department of State. 2018).

Counterterrorism, Trump administration continued military support for African nations combating extremist groups. This included operations in countries like Somalia (against Al-Shabaab) and Nigeria (against Boko Haram). (U.S. Department of Defense. Various annual reports on operations

in Africa 2018). Meeting with African Leaders in December 2018, Trump hosted several African leaders at a summit addressing security and economic issues, which emphasized U.S. interests in stability and partnerships with African nations. (White House Press Release. (2018). Remarks by President Trump at the U.S.-Africa Leaders' Summit). Humanitarian Aid, while there were cuts to foreign aid, the administration supported specific humanitarian efforts in areas suffering from famine and health crises, including Somalia and South Sudan. (U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Annual reports).

Joe Biden Administration (2021- 2025)

Reaffirmation of Partnerships, Biden's administration has sought to reaffirm the U.S.'s commitment to working alongside African nations, emphasizing diplomacy and cooperation on issues like climate change, health, and economic development. (U.S. Department of State. 2021).

Focus on Democracy and Human Rights, Biden has prioritized human rights and democracy in African nations, emphasizing the need to support civil society and democratic governance as key elements for peace and stability. (U.S. Department of State. (2021) The Biden Administration's Approach to Africa).

Health Initiatives, Biden administration has been more active in global health initiatives, particularly in response to COVID-19, by supporting vaccine distribution in African countries through COVAX and direct donations. (U.S. Department of State. (2021). U.S. Global Leadership on COVID-19 Vaccines).

Climate Change and Security, Biden's approach includes addressing climate change as a security issue in Africa, considering how environmental degradation can lead to conflict and instability. This includes partnerships aimed at sustainable development. (U.S. Department of State. (2021). Remarks at the UN Climate Change Conference).

2.4 The New Africa Foreign Policy Focus of US

The end of the Cold War presented the US Congress with the opportunity to re-focus African foreign policy on development issues, especially from the 1990s. Since then, bills, resolutions, and hearings in Congress have dealt with a variety of issues such as famine and economic development, as well as democracy and human rights issues. In furtherance of this new objective, Congress

passed the Africa Seeds of Hope Act in 1998, aimed at promoting African food production, African Growth and Opportunity Act in 2000, intended to promote African development through increased trade and investment, and the Global Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and Tuberculosis Relief Act of 2000, authorizing new funding to combat the global Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic. Most recently in 2014, the House of Representatives passed the Electrify Africa Act of 2014 under President Obama's Power Africa Energy Initiative. This law aims to double access to electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa, thereby spreading energy access throughout the continent and increasing Africa's ability to attract private investment. The Electrify Africa Act is in keeping with USAID's new development model of a results-based method of partnership and innovation that will end extreme poverty. All this mean that United States interest in Africa has continued, not only because the region is affected by several serious problems, some of which could have grave security and humanitarian consequences globally, but also “because of the potential Africa offers for US trade and investment should these problems ease”. (Copson W. Raymond 2001). In the initial stages of the United States constructive engagement with Africa, the relationship was not seen on reciprocal terms. In the words of Phillip Carter, then Acting Assistant Secretary to the Bureau of African Affairs, United States engagement with Africa was “too often [seen] with the idea of trying to do good for Africa, rather than to do good with Africa.”

The strategic importance of Africa in United States foreign policy priorities was revealed by US President Barack Obama when he noted in a foreword to the unveiling of the new US policy priorities in respect of Africa that “it is clear that Africa is more important than ever to the security and prosperity of the international community, and to the United States in particular”. (United States. State Department. (2012). This was reinforced by the United States’ National Security Strategy, released in May 2010, which called for partnership with African nations as they grow their economies and strengthen their democratic institutions and governance. This new thrust in US-Africa relations was outlined in a Presidential Policy Directive issued in June 2012. In that document the US President outlined his vision with respect to US policy toward sub-Saharan Africa.

Meanwhile, the US Administration emphasized Africa's importance as a US trading partner, underpinned by increased trade and investment opportunities and growing oil imports. US officials

repeatedly argued that Africa was already supplying 16% of US oil imports, and that Africa would overtake the Persian Gulf as a leading supplier of oil to the US within decade". (Susan Rice, Washington, D.C., January 24, 2000).

To further its objectives in Africa, the Administration gave strong endorsement to congressional trade and investment initiatives, and launched several Africa assistance programs, such as the Leland Initiative, aimed at enhancing Africa's access to the Internet, and the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative (GHAI) intended to reduce perennial food insecurity over much of eastern Africa. As a result of such initiatives many agencies and departments of the US government boosted their Africa-related capabilities.

2.5 Africa Union - US Relations

The US and the African Union (AU) enjoy a strong partnership that continues to develop, spanning a variety of sectors. According to the US mission to the African Union, "the United States and the AU formalized this partnership in August 2010 by signing a \$5.8 million assistance agreement that supports projects in peace and security, democracy and governance, agriculture, health, trade, and other fields, as well as general capacity building. As further evidence of the US-AU partnership, the United States and the AU initiated an annual high-level meeting in 2010 that brings together US and AU officials at the cabinet-level to discuss African political and economic issues, existing initiatives, and future areas of collaboration". The A.U has several programmers and initiatives that guides and shapes its development aspiration for African countries. Among these are.

2.6 New Partnership for Africa's Development

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is an African Union strategic framework for pan-African socio-economic development. It is both a vision and a policy framework for Africa in the twenty-first century. New Partnership for Africa's Development is a radically new intervention, spearheaded by African leaders, to address critical challenges facing the continent: poverty, development and Africa's marginalization internationally.

New Partnership for Africa's Development provides unique opportunities for African countries to take full control of their development agenda, to work more closely together, and to cooperate more effectively with international partners. To achieve the above objectives, the New Partnership

for Africa's Development manages several programs and projects in six theme areas. These themes are: - Agriculture and Food Security. - Climate Change and Natural Resource Management. - Regional Integration and Infrastructure. - Human Development. - Economic and Corporate Governance. - Cross-cutting Issues, including Gender, Capacity Development.

Ndedi concluded in an evaluation of New Partnership for Africa's Development lack of a clear and coherent structure is largely the result of the piecemeal expansion and adaptation of the document by its creators to accommodate a variety of interests and approaches, from within and from outside of Africa". (Ndedi Alain. A. 2012).

2.7 Africa Peer Review Mechanism

The Africa Peer Review Mechanism was initiated in 2002 and established in 2003 by the African Union in the framework of the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. The objectives of the Africa Peer Review Mechanism are primarily to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration through experience sharing and reinforcement of successful and best practices, including identifying deficiencies and assessment of requirements for capacity building. Performance and Progress are measured in four substantive areas:

- Democracy and Political Governance
- Economic Governance- Corporate Governance and- Socio-economic Development

In the last update in October 2023, the African Union (AU) has forty-two (42) member states, and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is an instrument of the African Union that aimed at promoting good governance and political stability among its member states. The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) encourages member states to engage in self-assessment and peer reviews regarding their governance policies.

As of now 2025, thirty-eight (38) African Union member states are participating in the Africa Peer Review Mechanism process. These member states voluntarily accede to the Africa Peer Review Mechanism, which allows them to be evaluated on various governance issues, including political, economic, and social governance.

The Africa Peer Review Mechanism aims to foster the adoption of policies, standards, and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development, and accelerated regional integration. It also facilitates the establishment of a common framework for assessing the performance of African governments in promoting democracy, economic management, and socio-economic development.

Emmanuel. (2024), noted that “...deeper inspection showed that of the forty-two (42) countries that had acceded, only thirty-eight had started the journey in any meaningful way; the remaining four (4) had signed up but done little more to move matters forward.

Meanwhile 10 countries were in the process of implementing their programs of action, while two countries (Tunisia and Mauritius) have almost completed their self-assessments and programs of action and were waiting to be peer reviewed”. (Adotey Bing-Pappé. October 2023).

2.8 African Governance Architecture

The 16th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union which convened in January 2011 adopted the African Governance Architecture and its Platform. The African Governance Architecture (AGA) is the overall political and institutional framework for the promotion of good governance in Africa by enhancing interaction and synergies between African Union organs/institutions with a formal mandate in governance and strengthen and their capacity to produce “Shared” agendas of Governance.

2.9 African Peace and Security Architecture

The African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) was established by the African Union in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities. Its role is to deal with prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in Africa. Its core organ is the African Union Peace and Security Council.

The African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) relies on the eight Regional Economic Communities (RECs). Writing for Chatham House, Alex Vines, noted that “over the last decade the AU has found a voice, and, despite some setbacks, it has shown through the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) is an active, regional peacekeeping mission operated by the

African Union with the approval of the United Nations, it is capable of conducting a successful peacemaking operation”.

On challenges, he concluded that A.U’s “biggest challenge is not making the decision to intervene or deploy forces, but the capacity of most African states to deploy effectively”, concluding that “not all of Africa's security problems can be solved by Africa alone, but APSA does provide a vision framework for African and external partnership”. (Vines. Alex. Accessed on July 27, 2014)

Challenges• There are lots of African governance initiatives at different levels but many of the initiatives are unknown/disconnected

- Within African Union several Organs are dealing with governance but also disconnected.
- Vines again notes that “APSA's dependence on external partners needs to diminish over the next decade if better African solutions are to be found to peace and security challenges in the continent. Yet, the internationalized nature of crises such as the one in Mali in 2012–2013 requires international partnerships”.

2.10 Conceptual framework of US Africa relations

The Concept of National Interest, “Every nation determines its policies in terms of its own interest” - President J.F Kennedy. Today, globalization has linked national production, distribution, markets, interests and information systems into a gigantic system of dependence and interdependence among nations. However, centuries ago when the US nation was in its formative stages, US President George Washington warned his countrymen in his farewell address against permanent alliances in the conduct of foreign affairs.

President Thomas Jefferson reiterated this position in his inaugural address five years later when he posited that America’s foreign policy will be guided by “peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none”. (Lake A. David. (1999) argues that “this injunction against foreign entanglements was elevated, over time, into an almost sacred principle of American policy”.

Many would argue that this has been the underlying principle of American foreign policy and border on the principle of “permanent interests and not permanent friends”. The concept of national

interest is best captured in the words of President Kennedy “Every nation determines its policies in terms of its own interest.” Every state has the responsibility to seek the welfare and the best interest of its citizens, in terms of providing security, freedom, food and economic infrastructure, and social services. This defines a country’s national interest and determines foreign policy. Related to the concept of national interest is the concept of political realism. This is the approach and practice of international politics by which nation-states are motivated by national interests which are disguised as moral concerns.

The concept is based on the principle that all states seek to protect their political autonomy and territorial integrity, and they rely on their own resources to secure their interest, enforce whatever agreement that they have so far as it serves their interest. This approach is evident in US relations with Anglophone West African and East African countries. The next chapter of the paper will build on this by analyzing US relations with African and most specifically with South Sudan based on thematic areas of US relations with Africa identified in the chapter.

CHAPTER THREE

3.1 METHODOLOGY

This chapter provides a comprehensive outline of the research methodology employed to investigate the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peacekeeping efforts, specifically focusing on the Addis Ababa Agreement related to South Sudan from 2013 to 2018. The chapter begins by establishing research design, followed by the methods utilized for data collection, analysis, and ethical considerations.

Understanding the dynamics of U.S.-Africa relations is essential in appreciating how external influences impact local conflict resolutions and peacebuilding efforts. As South Sudan navigated its turbulent post-independence landscape, the involvement of external powers, particularly the United States, became increasingly significant. The U.S. has historically positioned itself as a key player in promoting peace and stability in Africa, often leveraging diplomatic engagement, aid, and policy directives aimed at fostering reconciliation (Bader, 2016; Lyman, 2014).

The Addis Ababa Agreement, signed in August 2015, was a landmark moment intended to bring an end to the civil war that had erupted in December 2013. The agreement was not merely a product of internal negotiations amongst South Sudanese leaders but was heavily influenced by international actors, including the United States. This research aims to explore the specific roles played by U.S. foreign policy and engagement throughout the negotiation and implementation phases of the Addis Ababa Agreement. Insights will be drawn from stakeholder interviews and document analysis to understand better the complexities and challenges involved in such a major peacekeeping effort.

The chapter is structured as follows: first, it outlines the research design and rationale behind selecting a qualitative approach. Next, it describes the target population and sampling techniques, alongside the data collection methods that include interviews and document analysis. The chapter also delineates the data analysis procedures, ethical considerations, and limitations associated with the study. By adopting this methodology, the research seeks to provide a nuanced understanding of how U.S.-Africa relations have shaped peacekeeping processes in South Sudan, ultimately contributing to the broader field of peace and conflict studies.

3.2 Research Design

The research design serves as the framework for conducting the study on the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peacekeeping, particularly concerning the Addis Ababa Agreement in South Sudan between 2013 and 2018. This design is crucial for systematically exploring how external factors, specifically U.S. involvement, shaped the dynamics of conflict resolution and peacebuilding in South Sudan. The qualitative research approach is selected as it allows for a nuanced understanding of complex social phenomena, where multiple perspectives and experiences can provide depth to the analysis (Creswell, 2014).

3.2.1 Qualitative Research Approach

A qualitative research methodology is employed to facilitate in-depth exploration of the interactions and influences within the context of U.S.-Africa relations during the implementation of the Addis Ababa Agreement. This approach is particularly apt for studies addressing stakeholder perceptions, motivations, and contextual factors that influence peace processes (Flick, 2018). Given the multifaceted nature of international diplomacy and the local realities in South Sudan, qualitative data enable researchers to capture rich narratives and personal accounts that quantitative methods might overlook.

3.2.2 Case Study Selection

The Addis Ababa Agreement serves as the focal point of this research due to its significance as a formal attempt to resolve a major civil conflict in South Sudan. The selection of this case study is informed by its historical relevance and the pivotal role that U.S. foreign policy played throughout the negotiations and subsequent implementation phases. The agreement, which was signed with considerable international attention, illustrates the complexities of international intervention in domestic conflicts and the implications of U.S. policies (Muller, 2018).

3.2.3 Data Collection Methodology

This study will utilize two primary data collection methods: semi-structured interviews, and document analysis.

Semi-Structured Interviews, Interviews will be conducted with a purposeful sample of stakeholders involved in the Addis Ababa negotiations, including government officials, representatives from civil society organizations, and international diplomats. This method allows for guided conversations that adapt to the interviewee's responses while ensuring coverage of key topics regarding U.S. involvement and its impact on the peace process (Kvale & Brinkmann, 2015). Approximately 40-50 participants will be targeted to provide a diverse range of perspectives.

Document Analysis, in addition to interviews, a thorough analysis of existing documents will be conducted, including government reports, U.S. State Department publications, United Nations resolutions, and relevant academic literature. This method will contextualize the findings from interviews and provide evidence of the official stances and actions taken by the U.S. regarding the conflict and peace negotiations (Bowen, 2009).

3.2.4 Data Analysis Techniques

Data collected from interviews will undergo thematic analysis. This method involves coding the data and identifying recurring themes or patterns that emerge, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of stakeholder perceptions regarding U.S. influence on the peace process (Braun & Clarke, 2006). Document analysis will complement this by offering concrete examples of U.S. policy decisions and their impacts on both the negotiation dynamics and the overall stability in South Sudan.

3.3 Population and Sample

In the context of this research on the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peacekeeping, specifically focusing on the Addis Ababa Agreement in South Sudan from 2013 to 2018, it is essential to define the population and sample from which data will be drawn. The careful selection of participants ensures that the study captures a diverse range of perspectives and experiences related to U.S. involvement in the peace process. This section outlines the target population, the sampling strategy to be employed, and the rationale behind these choices.

The target population for this study includes all individuals and groups involved in the negotiation, implementation, and assessment phases of the Addis Ababa Agreement. This includes:

3.3.1 Population

South Sudanese Government Officials, individuals who were part of the South Sudanese government at the time of the agreement, including representatives from various ministries involved in the peace process.

Opposition Leaders and Faction Representatives, members of the political and military factions that participated in the negotiations. Their involvement is crucial, as they represent the differing interests present during the discussions.

Civil Society Organizations, representatives from NGOs and civil society actors engaged in peacebuilding efforts, advocacy, and community engagement related to the agreement.

International Diplomats, U.S. diplomats, as well as representatives from other countries and organizations (such as the United Nations and African Union), who played prominent roles during the negotiations and implementation phases.

Local Community Representatives, individuals whose lives were directly affected by the conflict and peace processes. This group might include tribal leaders, local activists, and ordinary citizens who can provide grassroots perspectives.

The population, therefore, consists of a wide array of stakeholders whose insights are valuable for understanding the interplay between U.S. policy and local dynamics in the South Sudan peace process.

3.3.2 Sample Selection

Given the qualitative nature of this research, a purposive sampling strategy will be employed to select participants who can provide rich, detailed information relevant to the research questions.

Purposive Sampling, this non-probability sampling method focuses on selecting individuals based on specific characteristics or experiences that align with the research objectives. This approach allows for the inclusion of key informants who have direct knowledge and experience regarding the U.S. influence on the peace process (Palinkas et al., 2015).

Sample Size, approximately 40 to 50 participants will be targeted for semi-structured interviews. This sample size is deemed sufficient to achieve data saturation, the point at which no new information emerges from additional interviews (Guest et al., 2006). A mix of stakeholders from the categories will be included to ensure a diverse representation of viewpoints.

Criteria for Selection, participants will be selected based on their involvement in the Addis Ababa Agreement process and their perspectives on U.S. influence. The following criteria will guide the selection process:

- Active participation in the negotiations or subsequent peacebuilding efforts.
- Demonstrated expertise or experience in U.S.-Africa relations.
- Representation from various factions, including government, opposition, and civil society.

Recruitment Process, potential participants will be identified through recommendations from colleagues and existing literature on the subject matter. Following identification, invitations for participation will be extended via emails, phone calls, or face-to-face meetings, ensuring that informed consent is obtained prior to conducting interviews.

Ethical considerations will be paramount in this research involving human subjects. Participants will be informed of the study's purpose, the voluntary nature of their participation, and their right to withdraw at any time. Confidentiality will be maintained by anonymizing responses and securely storing data to protect participant identities (Creswell, 2014). Approval from relevant institutional review boards may also be sought to ensure adherence to ethical standards.

3.4 Data Collection Methods

In examining the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peacekeeping through the case study of the Addis Ababa Agreement in South Sudan (2013-2018), it is crucial to employ a robust data collection strategy. This section outlines the primary data collection methods that will be utilized in this research, focusing on qualitative approaches that allow for in-depth exploration of the complex dynamics involved in the peace process. The chosen methods will help to gather nuanced insights from various stakeholders, thus enriching the understanding of the U.S. role in the peace negotiations and implementation.

3.4.1 Qualitative Data Collection Methods

Semi-structured interviews will serve as the primary data collection method, allowing for flexibility while ensuring that key topics relevant to the research questions are addressed. This method involves preparing a set of guiding questions that facilitate discussion while enabling respondents to share their experiences and perspectives in their own words (Cohen & Crabtree, 2006).

Interview Design: The interviews will be designed to elicit detailed responses about participants' roles during the negotiation and implementation of the Addis Ababa Agreement, their perceptions of U.S. involvement, and any observed impacts of this influence on the peace process.

Participant Selection: As previously mentioned, participants will include South Sudanese government officials, opposition leaders, civil society representatives, international diplomats, and local community members. The semi-structured format will allow for follow-up questions and probing based on participant responses, leading to richer discussions.

Data Recording and Transcription: Interviews will be audio-recorded with participant consent and subsequently transcribed verbatim. This practice aids in maintaining accuracy in data representation and facilitates detailed analysis (Gibson et al., 2007).

3.4.2 Focus Group Discussions

Focus group discussions will complement individual interviews by fostering interaction among participants and generating collective perspectives on U.S.-Africa relations and the Addis Ababa Agreement. This method is particularly beneficial for exploring shared views, group dynamics, and potential conflicts among stakeholders (Krueger & Casey, 2015).

Composition: Separate focus groups will be organized based on stakeholder categories (e.g., government officials, civil society members) to ensure a safe space for open dialogue. Each group will consist of 6-10 participants to encourage participation while allowing for diverse opinions.

Facilitation: A skilled facilitator will guide the discussions using prompts related to U.S. influence, the effectiveness of the peace agreement, and local perceptions. The interactions will be recorded and later analyzed to extract themes and insights.

Document Review: In addition to interviews and focus groups, a document review will be conducted to triangulate findings and provide context for the data collected from participants. This method involves analyzing existing documents related to the Addis Ababa Agreement and U.S. engagement in South Sudan.

Types of Documents: Relevant documents may include official agreements, diplomatic cables, reports from NGOs, academic articles, and media coverage from the period of the peace process. These documents can serve as valuable sources of information regarding the formal and informal narratives surrounding U.S. involvement and the dynamics of the peace negotiations (Bowen, 2009).

Analytical Framework: A qualitative content analysis will be employed to identify themes, patterns, and discrepancies in the documentation compared to participant accounts, thereby enriching the overall findings.

3.4.3 Field Observations

Direct field observations may also be incorporated to gain insights into the real-world implications of the Addis Ababa Agreement and the role of U.S. involvement in the local context. This method allows researchers to capture the socio-political environment, interactions among stakeholders, and the overall atmosphere in South Sudan during the relevant period.

Observations could take place during peace-related events, community meetings, or workshops focused on reconciliation and implementation of the agreement. Field notes will be taken to document observations, which will be integrated into the qualitative analysis.

The data collected through these methods will undergo thematic analysis, which involves coding the data to identify patterns and themes that address the research questions (Braun & Clarke, 2006). The iterative process of coding will allow for the emergence of both preconceived and novel themes related to U.S.-Africa relations and their effect on peace efforts in South Sudan.

3.5 Data Analysis Procedures

Data analysis is a critical component of research that helps to interpret and understand the collected information. In the context of examining the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peacemaking

through the case study of the Addis Ababa Agreement in South Sudan (2013–2018), systematic data analysis procedures will be employed to derive meaningful insights from qualitative data. This section details the step-by-step procedures for analyzing the data collected through semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, document reviews, and field observations.

3.5.1 Data Preparation

Before analysis begins, data preparation is essential to ensure clarity and accuracy. The following steps will be undertaken:

Transcription: Audio recordings from interviews and focus groups will be transcribed verbatim. This process involves capturing participants' responses accurately to reflect their perspectives authentically (Ochs, 1979). Transcription will also include non-verbal cues where pertinent, as they can add context to verbal data.

Data Organization: Transcripts and field notes will be compiled systematically. Each data source will be labeled and organized chronologically and thematically, making it easier to navigate through the material during analysis.

Familiarization: The researcher will immerse themselves in the data by reading transcripts, reviewing field notes, and revisiting relevant documents. This initial process of familiarization allows the researcher to comprehend the breadth and depth of the data, leading to deeper engagement as analysis progresses (Braun & Clarke, 2006).

3.6 Ethical Considerations

Ethics in research, particularly in sensitive contexts such as peacemaking and international relations, is paramount to ensure the integrity of the study and the protection of participants involved. This section outlines key ethical considerations related to a study examining the influence of U.S.-Africa relations on peacemaking, focusing on the Addis Ababa Agreement in South Sudan (2013–2018). These considerations encompass informed consent, confidentiality, data protection, and the potential impact of the research findings.

3.6.1 Informed Consent

Informed consent is a foundational ethical principle in research involving human participants. It ensures that individuals voluntarily agree to participate after being fully informed about the study's purpose, procedures, potential risks, and benefits (Flicker & Lunt, 2010).

Clear Communication: Researchers will provide potential participants with a detailed information sheet outlining the nature of the study, its objectives, and what participation entails. This document will be written in clear, accessible language, avoiding jargon to ensure comprehension (Haggerty, 2004).

Voluntary Participation: Participation will be entirely voluntary, allowing individuals to opt-in without any coercion or undue influence. Participants will also be informed that they can withdraw from the study at any point without facing any consequences (Creswell, 2014).

Parental Consent: In cases where minors (under the age of 18) may be involved in the study, parental consent will be sought along with assent from the minors themselves, ensuring that both parties understand the research and agree to participation (Liamputtong, 2007).

3.6.2 Confidentiality and Anonymity

Maintaining confidentiality and anonymity is crucial, especially when the research addresses sensitive topics such as conflict and foreign intervention.

Data Protection: Researchers will implement stringent measures to protect the identity of participants. This includes anonymizing data by using pseudonyms and removing identifiable information from transcripts and reports (Liamputtong, 2007).

Secure Storage: All data, including audio recordings, transcripts, and field notes, will be stored securely, with access limited to the research team. Digital files will be encrypted, and physical documents will be kept in locked cabinets to prevent unauthorized access (Sullivan-Bolyai et al., 2005).

Reporting Findings: When reporting results, care will be taken to present findings in a manner that does not reveal the identities of participants or their affiliations, particularly in discussions of controversial viewpoints or critiques of entities such as the U.S. government (Morrison, 2014).

3.6.3 Minimizing Harm

Research must prioritize the welfare of participants, particularly in contexts impacted by conflict, where individuals may have experienced trauma.

Risk Assessment: Prior to data collection, researchers will conduct a risk assessment to identify and mitigate potential harm to participants, such as emotional distress or safety concerns arising from discussing sensitive topics (Liamputtong, 2007).

Support Resources: Participants will be informed of available support services, including counseling and community resources, should discussing their experiences prompt any negative feelings or memories (Rosenberg, 2011).

Debriefing, following interviews and focus group discussions, participants will be debriefed to address any questions or concerns they may have regarding the research and their involvement. This practice promotes transparency and shows respect for participants' experiences (Malone, 2012).

3.6.4 Ethical Use of Findings

Researchers bear the responsibility of utilizing the findings in a manner that contributes positively to the understanding of U.S.-Africa relations and peacemaking.

Accurate Representation: Findings will be presented accurately and faithfully, avoiding misrepresentation of participant views or exaggeration of claims regarding U.S. influence (Guillemin & Gillam, 2004). This genuine representation is essential to maintaining the trust of participants and stakeholders involved.

Implications for Policy: Researchers will be mindful of the implications of their findings for policymakers and other stakeholders. The intent is to provide constructive insights that can inform future engagements in peace processes without reinforcing power imbalances or perpetuating biases (Goldman et al., 2015).

Community Engagement: Where feasible, researchers will engage with local communities and stakeholders in disseminating findings. This practice ensures that insights gained from the research contribute to broader conversations about peacebuilding and U.S.-Africa relations rather than merely serving academic interests (Kropp et al., 2020).

CHAPTER FOUR

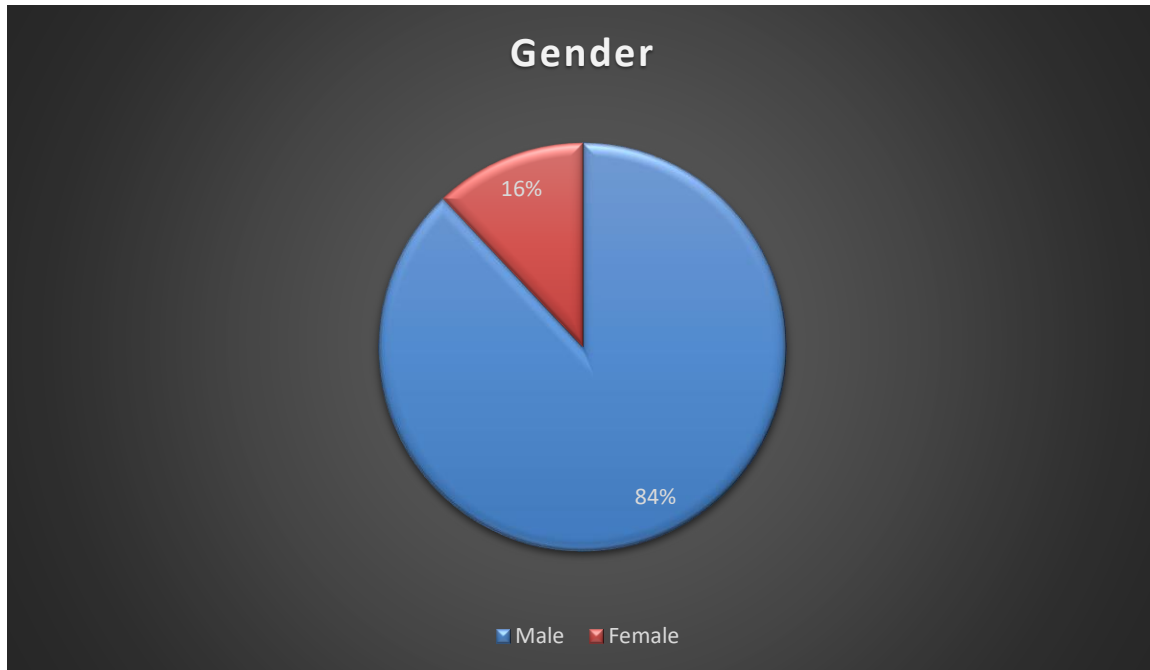
DATA ANALYSIS PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

This chapter explains the overview of the results and findings of the primary and secondary data and literature survey. It tries to emphasize upon what was discovered during the process of research project in the study. However, the sample size being collected is fifty (50) in the data collection processes. The sample size was presided over the complexity interplay between U.S. -Africa relations and peacebuilding efforts in South Sudan, a nation that has faced significant challenges since independence in 2011.

The targets of the sampling survey during the data collection process were to critically analyze the influence of the U.S and its participation in South Sudan peace agreements, such as the Revitalized Agreements on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS). As one of the most recent states to emerge from a protracted conflict, South Sudan journey toward stability and peace is not only influenced by internal dynamics but also heavily impacted by external actors, notably the United States. The data collection methods study the outcomes of U.S support that contributed to or hindered progress toward reconciliation and nation-building.

Table 4.1: Gender of the respondents.

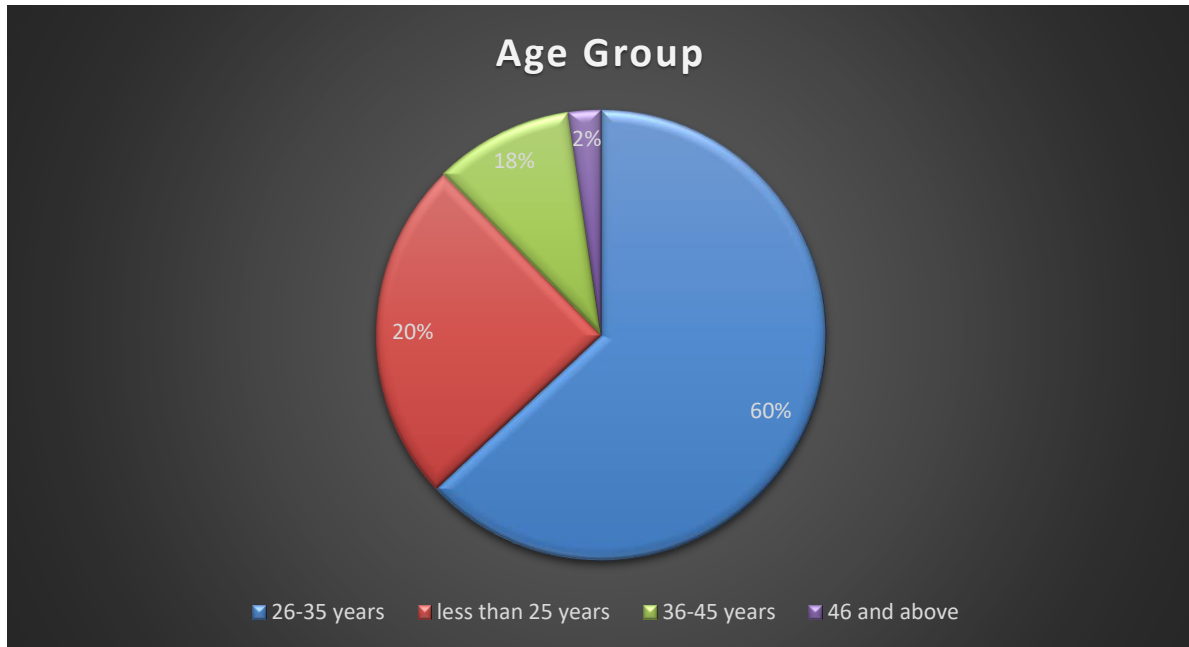
Category	Frequency	Percentage
Male	42	84%
Female	08	16%
Total	50	100%



The total number of responses collected through the distribution of questionnaire were 50, out of which the male respondent was 42 and female respondent were 8. Majority of respondent were from male. The ratio being 42:8 for male and female respectively. The difference between the ratios will make our answer more obvious, which may not have been possible in case the ratio has been equal.

Table 4.2: Show the age group of respondents.

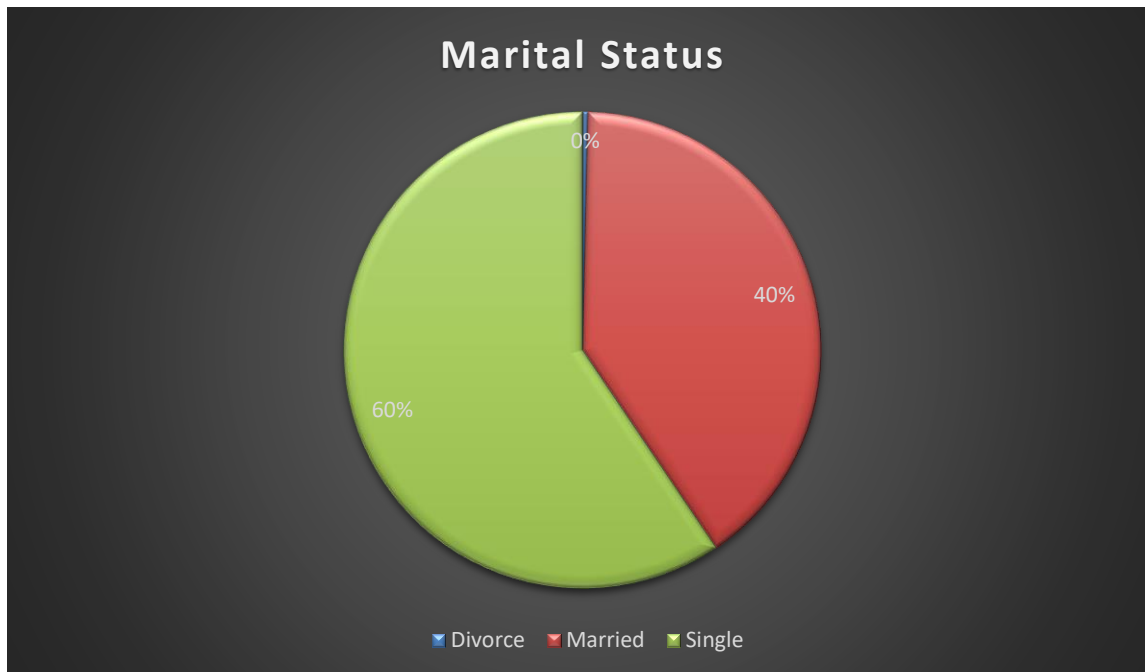
Category	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 25 years	10	20%
26-35 years	30	60%
36-45 years	9	18%
46 and above years	1	2%
Total	50	100%



The response has been collected from various age groups ranging from 18-46 and above +years old. Maximum response belongs to the age group of 26-35 years followed by 18-25 years age group, 36-46 years age group and 46 and above years age group respectively. Few respondents were from the 46+ years age group.

Table 4.3: Showing marital status

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Single	30	60%
Married	20	40%
Divorce	0	0%
Total	50	100%



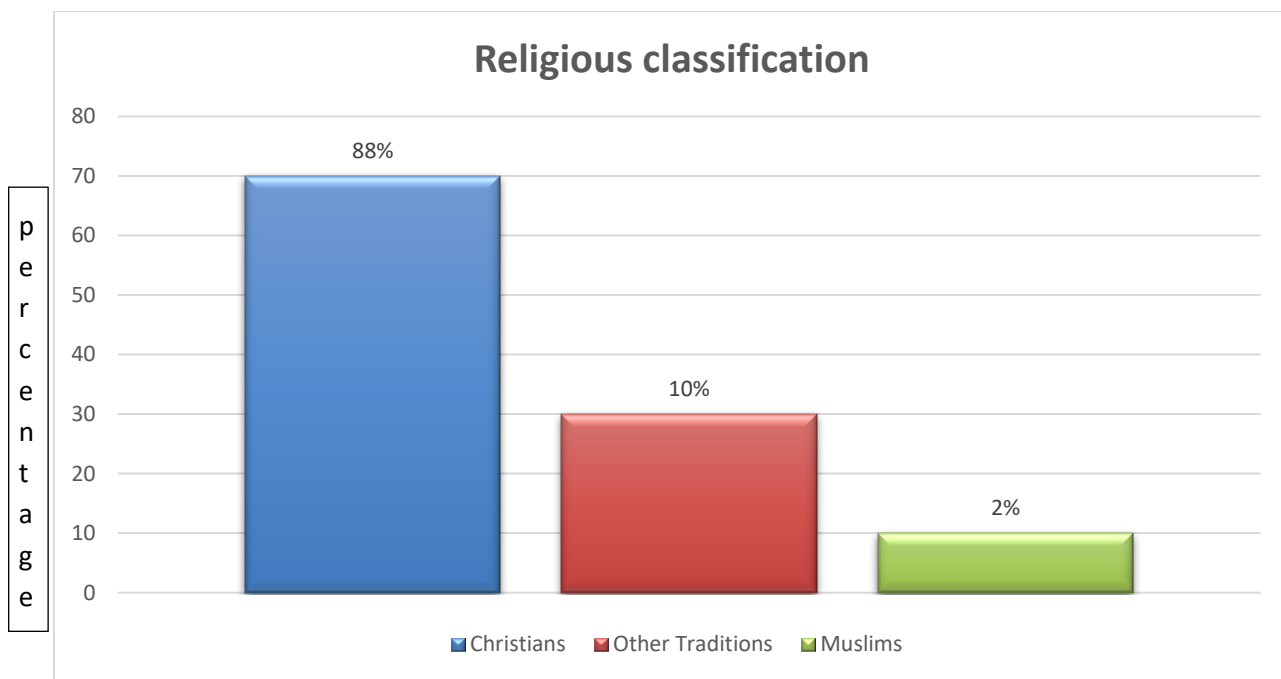
The targets total number of marital statuses collected during the distribution of questionnaire was 50, out of which the single respondent was 30, married respondents were 20 and divorced negative respectively. Therefore, most respondents were single. So, the ratio being 30:20 for single and married respectively.

In this pie chart which represents the respondents that said in the survey; that many South Sudanese are single which represent 60% of population living unmarried because of social, political and economic crisis which being brought by the political instability in the country.

Since 2013 this has had the focal effect which affected the people to lived single. Therefore, 40% represent the population that manages to get married out of the crisis or political instability in the country. However, the 0% of the population divorced their partners simply because of economic maintenance at their various level of income in South Sudan.

Table 4.4: That shows the religious classification

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Christians	44	88%
Other Traditions	5	10%
Muslims	1	2%
Total	50	100%



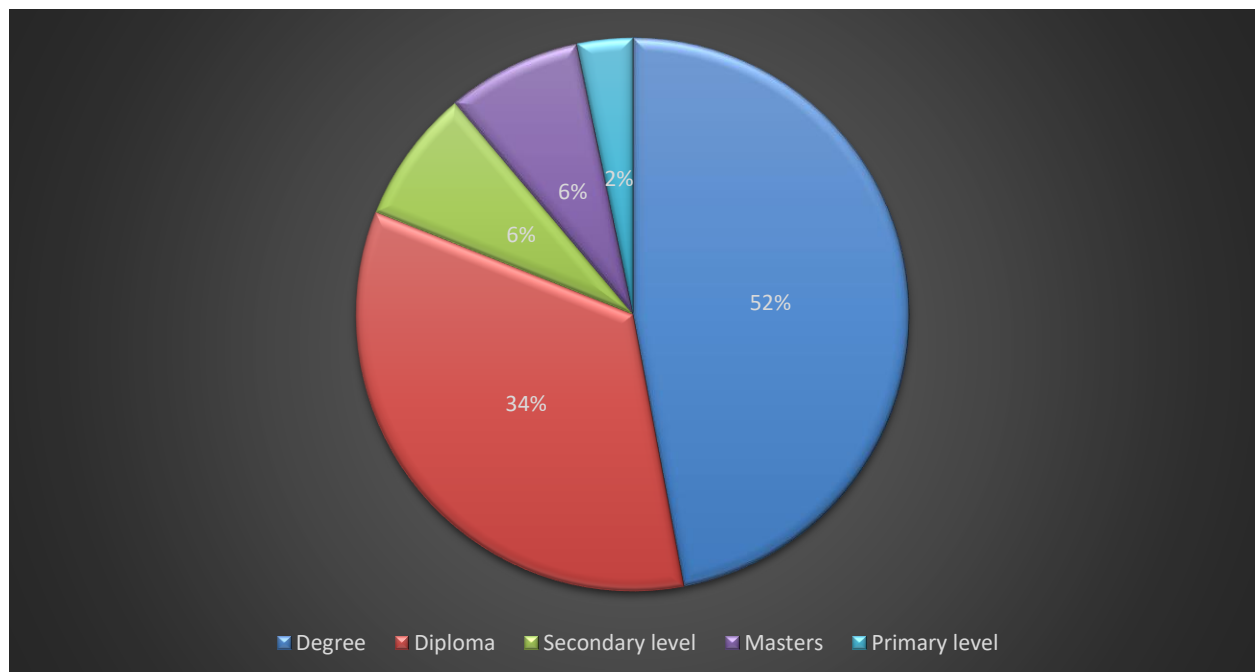
The questionnaire survey focuses on three (3) categories of religions. The total sample size of religious classification collected through the distribution of questionnaire was 50, out of which the Christians respondent was 44, other traditional believer's respondents were 5 and Muslim was just one (1) separately. Therefore, most majority respondents were Christians, followed by other traditions. The fewer respondents based on questionnaire determination was Muslim subsequently.

In this clustered or bar chart graph which represents the respondents based on the religious categories in the questionnaire survey determine the affordable number of Christians in the country.

The outcomes of this survey resulted that South Sudan is dominated by Christian majority which represent 88% of Christianity population, followed by other traditional believers with 10% of population and 2% of Muslim population living in the country. This percentage was determined based on the outcomes of the questionnaire. Since independence 2011, South Sudan was ranking among Christian domain states in Africa.

Table 4.5: Represents educational background of the respondents

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Degree	26	52%
Diploma	17	34%
Secondary level	3	6%
Masters	3	6%
Primary level	1	2%
Total	50	100%

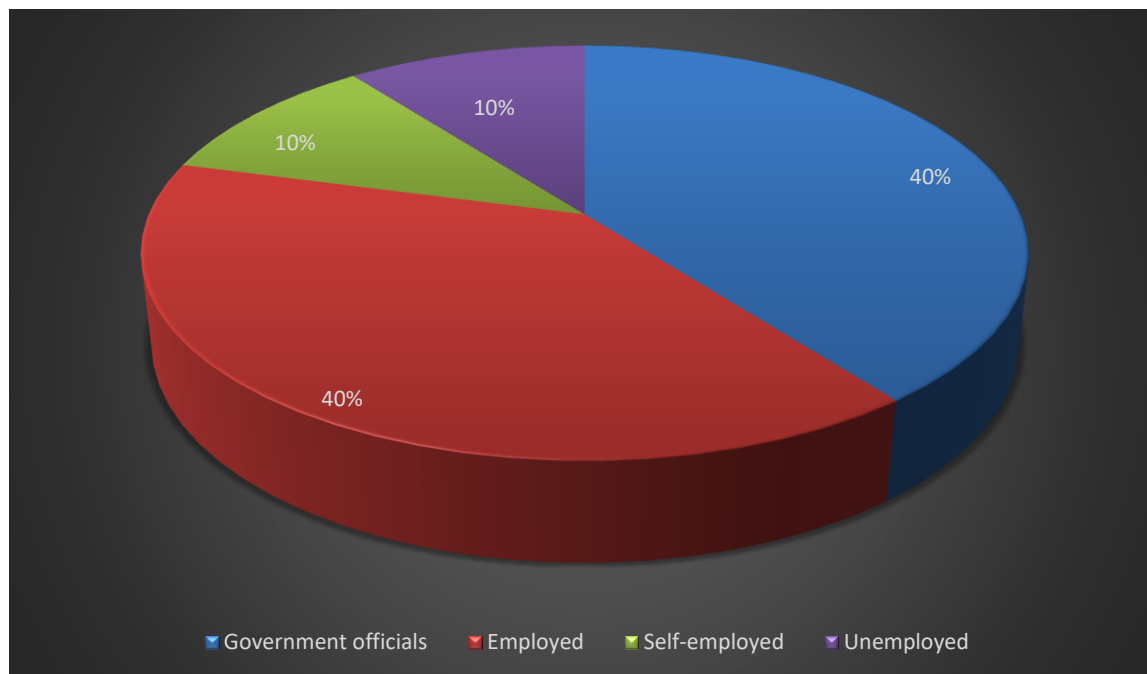


In this pie chart graph, the maximum professional targets total number of respondents in data collection methods during the research project study was exactly 50 questionnaires that were distributed to individuals, out of which the degree holder's respondent was 26, diploma holder's respondents were 17, master's holders 3, secondary level 3, and primary level one (1) as appropriately. Therefore, most respondents were degree holders with 52%, followed by diploma holders with 34%, master's with 6%, secondary level consisted of 6% and primary level with less 2% each.

The response has been collected from various people who are into various professions. As is formulated in the above graph that most respondents are student's undergraduates who are pursuing degrees and are of the young age group. The other respondents having most response after degree holders are diploma holders. Hence the fewest responses were those of masters, secondary and primary levels respectively. The information gathered from the above data has a great impact on all kinds of professions.

Table 4.6: Occupation of the respondent

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Government officials	20	40%
Employed	20	40%
Self-employed	5	10%
Unemployed	5	10%
Total	50	100%



The respondents exhausted mostly about the decay of political instability in South Sudan. The employees which represent 40% of different ages encourage the local communities to raise their voices by suppressing the political leaders who are ambassadors of conflict and mismanaging the country's resources and its very people; instead of nationalizing the citizens, they devoted time to the development of the new independent state on the continent of Africa and the world as whole.

Therefore, other 40% of government officials details the present of bad systems, tribalism, national cohesion, presence of nepotism, bad or weak governance, inequality, rampant corruption, bribery, political appeasement and many others.

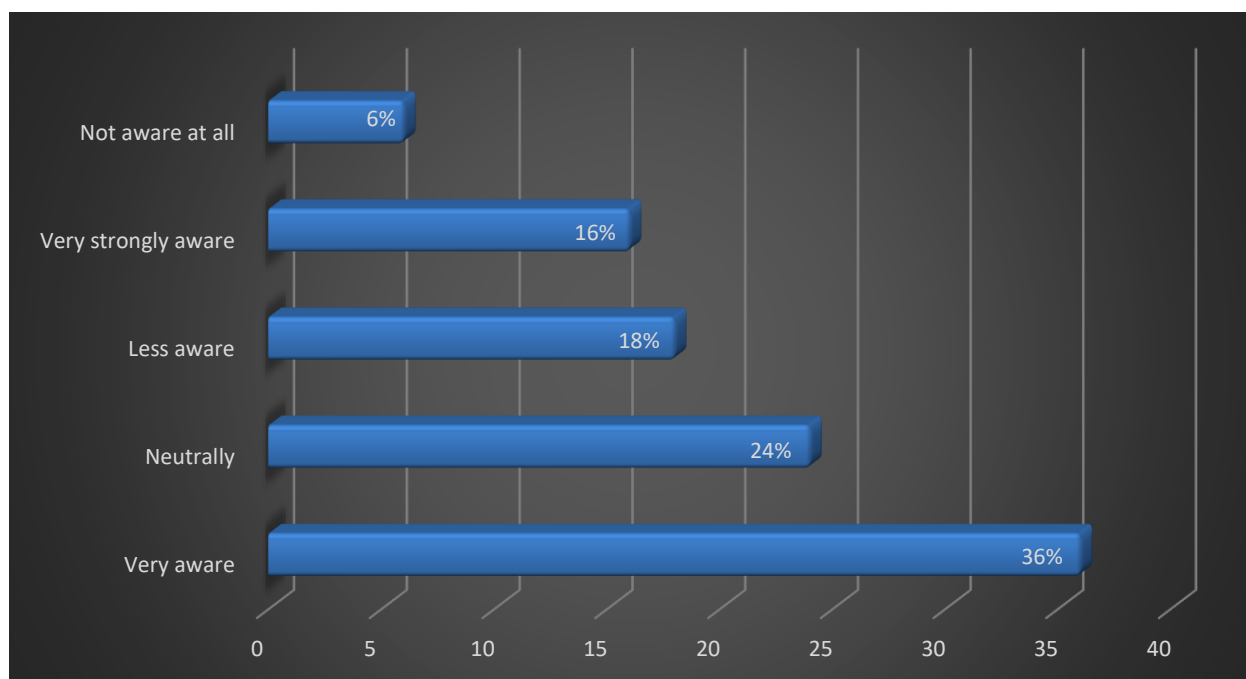
The self-employed and unemployed groups that consisted of 20% have stated that the control of resources and centralization of powers into few individuals' hands has provided political instability for both nationals and grassroots in the countryside. Thus, this has brought political unrest, hunger, diseases, communal conflict among the communities, underdevelopment, mismanagement of state revenues, random death of citizens, increased of homeless boys, increasement of streets beggars, daylight robberies, unconditional processes, and regional politics influenced in the country.

Hence, all the respondents contributed much upon the negative consequences that affected lasting peacebuilding and political development due to what is so-called political instability, and civil war

that broke out since 2013 whereby the governmental institutions have no right of freedom to exercise their political powers in their own way of frameworks.

Table 4.7: Perceptions of U.S -Africa relations; on a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate your awareness of U.S. -Africa relations? (1= not aware at all, 5= very aware).

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Not aware at all	3	6%
Less aware	9	18%
Neutrally	12	24%
Very aware	18	36%
Very strongly aware	8	16%
Total	50	100%

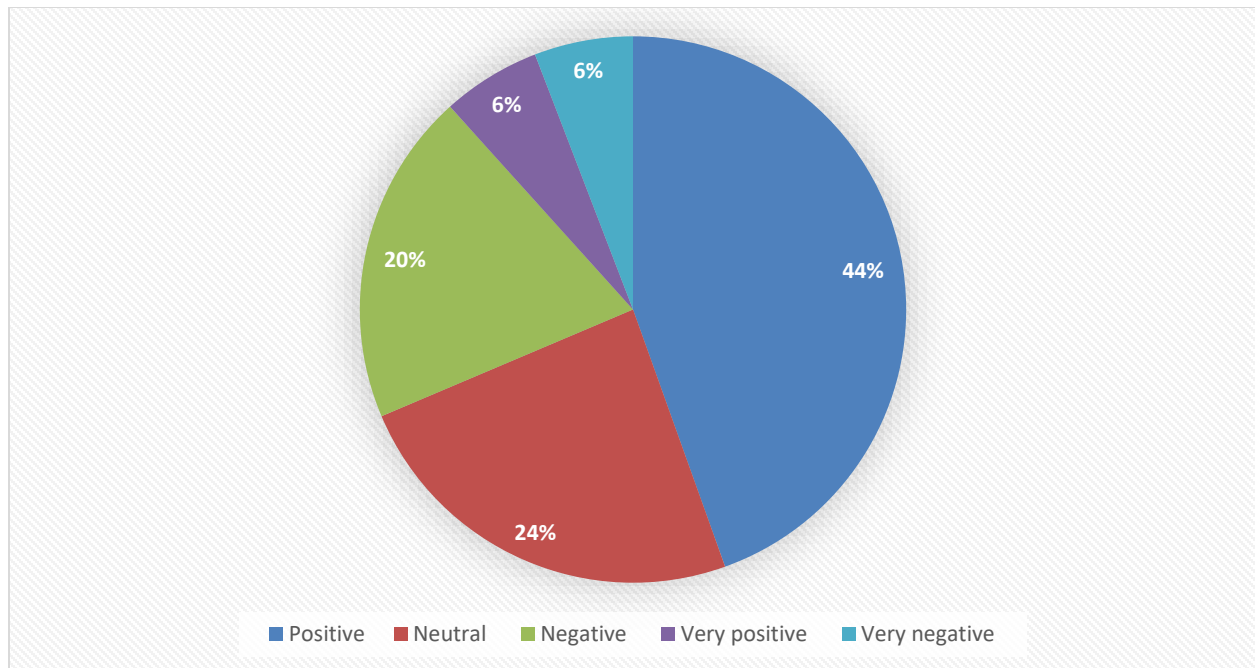


Although African countries and most specially South Sudan experienced long years of wars and bloody civil wars, the peace processes that undertaken through United States reconstruction efforts in Africa and particularly South Sudan differed considerably. This is substantiated by those answering questionnaire regarding the peace processes, and their understanding of how the nature and character of long years war regimes affected the people and outcomes of civil war peacebuilding and reconstruction efforts in Africa and South Sudan separately.

Regarding the awareness, over half of the respondents in questionnaire convincing that their awareness towards United States -Africa relations were differed apart 'Not aware at all' 6%, 'Less aware' 18%, 'Neutrally' 24%. When comparing with those who are aware about U.S. -Africa relations, however, the number of respondents 48% that combined not aware at all, less aware and neutrally, far exceeded the number of respondents in 'Very aware' 36%, and 'Very strongly aware' 16% that constituted 52% of respondents. It is outlandish that 52% of respondents indicated that they are 'very aware' and 'very strongly aware' about U.S. -Africa relations, compared to only 48% who initially had no idea about relations. Conversely, 48% compared to 52% of respondents in questionnaire, respectively, believed that they are of course 'very aware, and very strongly aware' of the U.S. -Africa relations (see Table 2). In the questionnaire, 6% of respondents said, 'not aware at all', "while 18% of respondents said, 'less aware' and 24% of respondents are 'neutrally.'

Table 4.8: How do you perceive the overall relationship between the U.S. and African nations?

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Very positive	3	6%
Positive	22	44%
Neutral	12	24%
Negative	10	20%
Very negative	3	6%
Total	50	100%



The next question is related to the respondent's assessment of the actual overall relationship between the U.S. and African nations efforts and programs towards the peacekeeping in the Africa and South Sudan as a solely country for case study. On this question, only 6% of respondents in questionnaire mentioned that the overall relationship between the U.S. and African nations have had a tiny perception of this relations. Those answering questionnaires only focused their much time on the 'very negative' 6%, 'Negative' 20%, while those who claimed 'neutral' 24%, are much higher.

From the data presented in Table 3, it is obvious that opinion is divided within the overall relationship between the U.S. and African nations on the success or failure of foreign policy or influenced initiatives. This is clearly shown by the percentage of those who claimed the influenced initiatives was 'positive' 44%, 'Very positive 6%. In the case of South Sudan, on the other hand, only 50% out of respondents claimed that the process was 'positive and very positive, while 24% reported that the process was 'neutral'. Only a very small number 26% constituted 'Negative 20% and very negative 6%, compared with 50% respondents in favored of 'positive 44% and very positive 6%, respectively.

Table 4.9: In your opinion, what are the main objectives of U.S. foreign policy in Africa? (select all that apply).

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Economic development	6	12%
Counterterrorism	22	44%
Humanitarian aid	12	24%
Promoting democracy	10	20%
Total	50	100%

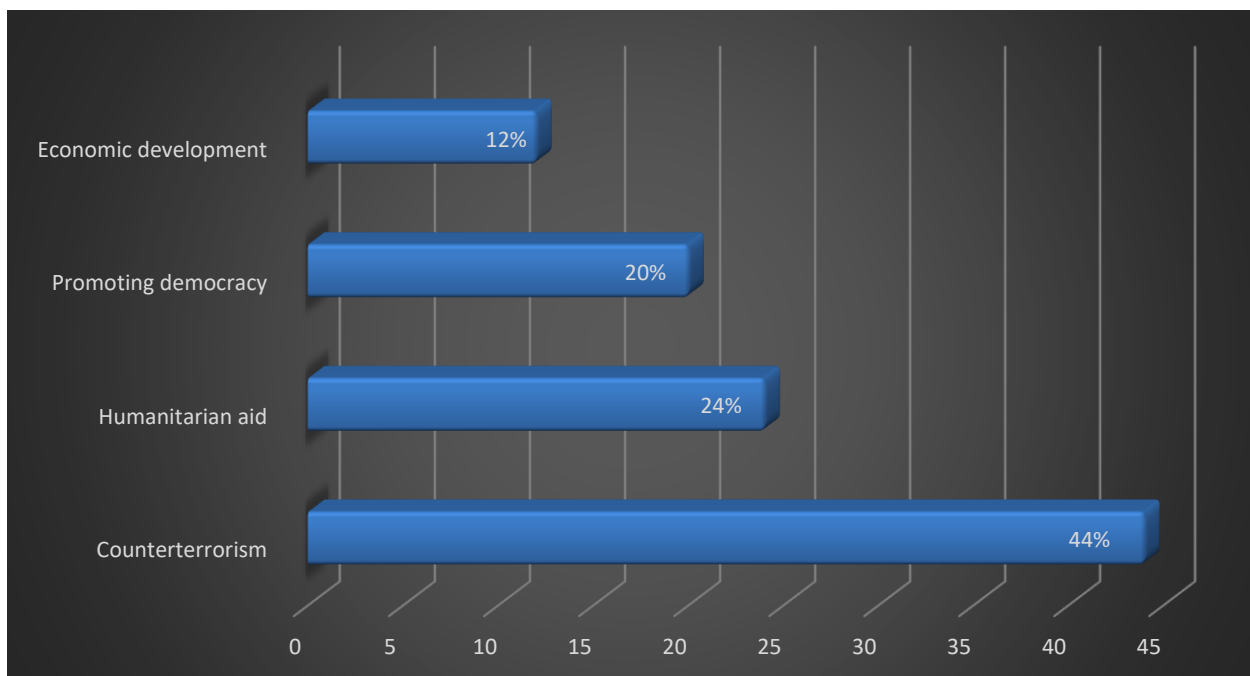


Table 4 highlights the main objectives of U.S. foreign policy in Africa. According to respondents, the United States had possessed much of its influenced in Africa because of ‘counterterrorism’ as the main top priority of U.S. foreign policy in Africa, with 44% of respondents devoted their analysis on it. Therefore, ‘humanitarian aid, was identified as the second most important factor in

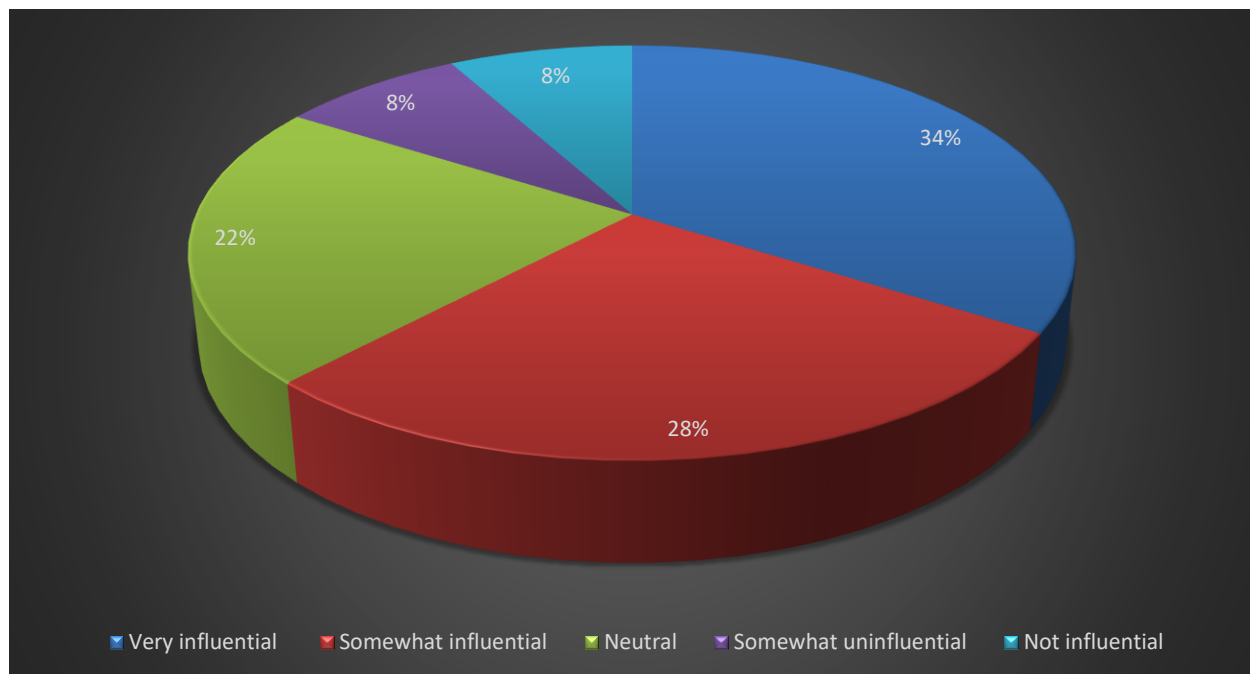
U.S. foreign policy in Africa with 24% of respondents that determined it as one of the U.S. tops main objectives of foreign influenced in African continent.

Other factor mentioned in the case of Africa and South Sudan in their order of their important, include ‘promoting democracy’ with 20% those respondents possessed their analysis based on the U.S. political shape or interest through foreign policy in African nations, positively. These results are determined by the deep analysis being made by the respondents during the data collection process. Therefore, promoting democracy was ranked as the third top priority of U.S. foreign engagements through diplomatic influence.

Yet ‘economic development’ and insincerity on the part of the economic development challenges or crisis in Africa were also identified as a major objective of their foreign influenced in Africa as to fight poverty that drags back some of Africa nations to terrible poverty. However, while economic development ranked four in questionnaire response with 12% of respondents each.

Table 4.10: How influential do you believe U.S. policies are in shaping the political landscape within South Sudan?

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Very influential	17	34%
Somewhat influential	14	28%
Neutral	11	22%
Somewhat uninfluential	4	8%
Not influential	4	8%
Total	50	100%



This table 5, shows the values of U.S. influential policies which are in shaping the political landscape within the politics of South Sudan. The total number of respondents that assess the policies of the U.S. during data collection were 50 that represent questionnaire survey. Respondents were present their views according to how they analyzed the U.S. policies that politically transform the political landscape within the political circle of South Sudan.

On this table above, 'Very influential' 34% of respondents believed U.S. policies are of course shaping political landscape within South Sudan. They had observed it through their political observations based on political maneuvering of foreign influence of the U.S. towards domestic politics of South Sudan. Followed by 'somewhat influential' that constituted 28% of respondents that stated their views on the ground that they are moderately satisfied with the foreign policy which alluded South Sudan's politics during political instability and economic collapse since 2013 civil war.

However, 'neutral' formed 22% that turned their abstaining about the U.S. policy towards political landscape within South Sudan because they had no idea about political influence done by the United States government towards how South Sudan politics should be polished and shape appropriately. Therefore 'somewhat uninfluential' embody 8% of respondents that disagree on the

layman views or political point of views that U.S. government played role towards political landscape in South Sudan political arena.

On the other hand, ‘not influential’ made up of 8% of respondents that had totally dissatisfying with foreign policy that ground the political influenced in the politics of South Sudan since the independence of the country in 2011. Therefore, few respondents became paralleled with majority of respondents that comprised of 34% in favor of very influential, respectively.

Table 4.11: Impact on peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan; how familiar are you with U.S. -led peacekeeping initiatives in South Sudan?

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Very familiar	25	50%
Somewhat familiar	9	18%
Neutral	5	10%
Somewhat unfamiliar	2	4%
Not familiar	9	18%
Total	50	100%

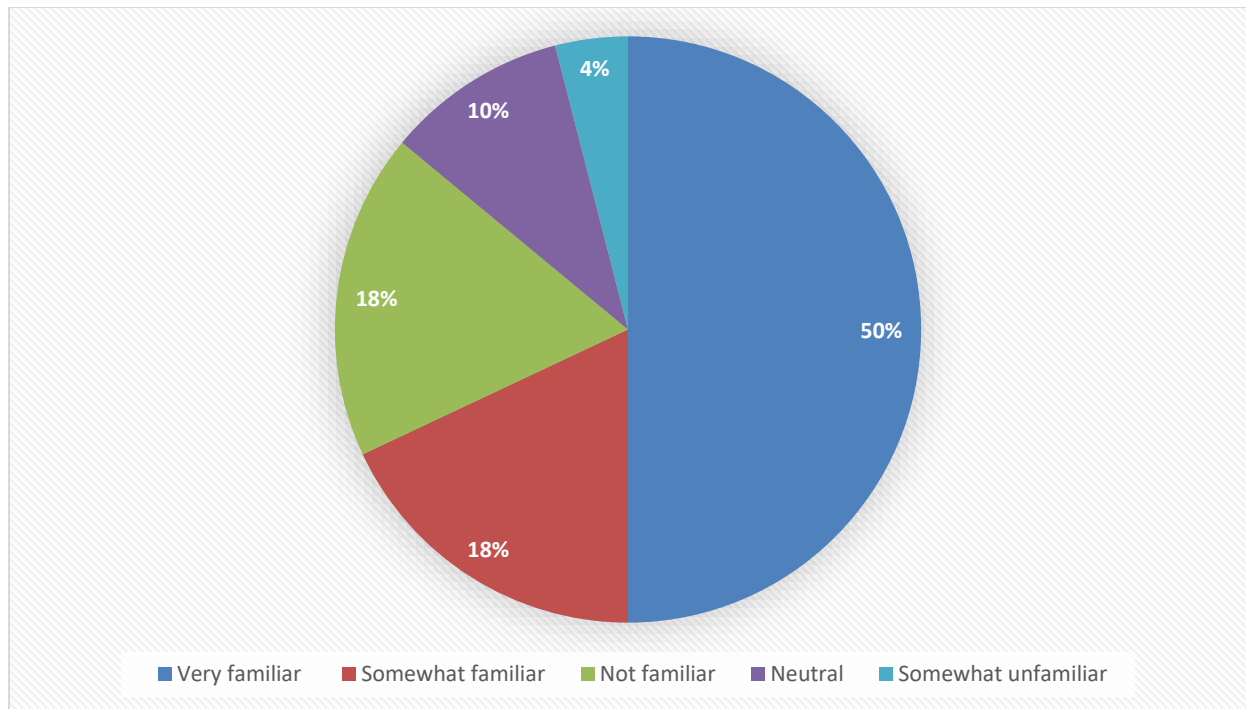


Table 6 detailed how familiar the respondents are, based on the question above which initially focused on peacekeeping initiative in South Sudan. The data collection process through questionnaire survey resulted the positivity and negativity outcomes of United Nations (UN) peacekeeping initiatives led by the U.S. in South Sudan. Such high respondents were also evident among the citizens as shown by their overwhelming enthusiasm that the peacekeeping initiative was desirable, given the harsh lessons of the long years of hostility. According to outcomes ‘very familiar’ 50% of respondents believed that the presence of peacekeeping initiatives in South Sudan brought positive and negative impacts to the citizens and the country as whole. The positive impacts that initiated by peacekeeping in South Sudan was protection of civilians in hotspot areas where conflicts have affected people that are living in those areas, political influence towards warring parties to the conflicts in the country, peace supporters and mediators of peace talks.

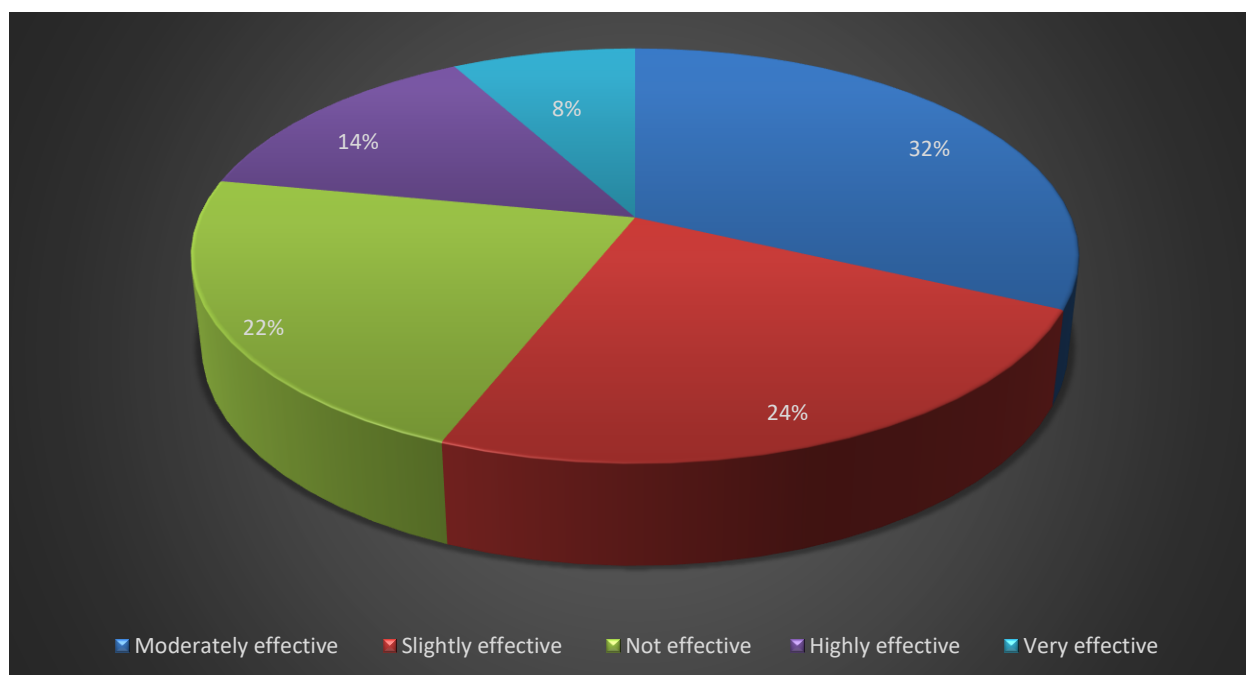
However, the negative impacts of peacekeeping in South Sudan are that U.S. which is the big player of United Nations (UN) has totally failed to bring lasting peace to South Sudan since the country fluxed into fragile crisis that affected hundreds of thousands of civilians that fled the country for their safety in neighboring countries like Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia camps.

As its follow by ‘somewhat familiar’ that constituted 18% of respondents understands the role of the UN in peacekeeping in South Sudan which supported by the general perception of the role of

the international community in the same enterprise. Only ‘neutral’ 10%, ‘Somewhat unfamiliar’ 4%, and ‘Not familiar’ 18% of respondents reported that the international community played a ‘neutral’ role or had ‘somewhat unfamiliar’ and ‘not familiar at all’ which is not favoring any political conditions which their mission was mandated to address in South Sudan.

Table 4.12: On a scale from 1 to 5, how effective do you think U.S. -backed peacekeeping efforts have been in South Sudan?

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Not effective	11	22%
Slightly effective	12	24%
Moderately effective	16	32%
Highly effective	7	14%
Very effective	4	8%
Total	50	100%

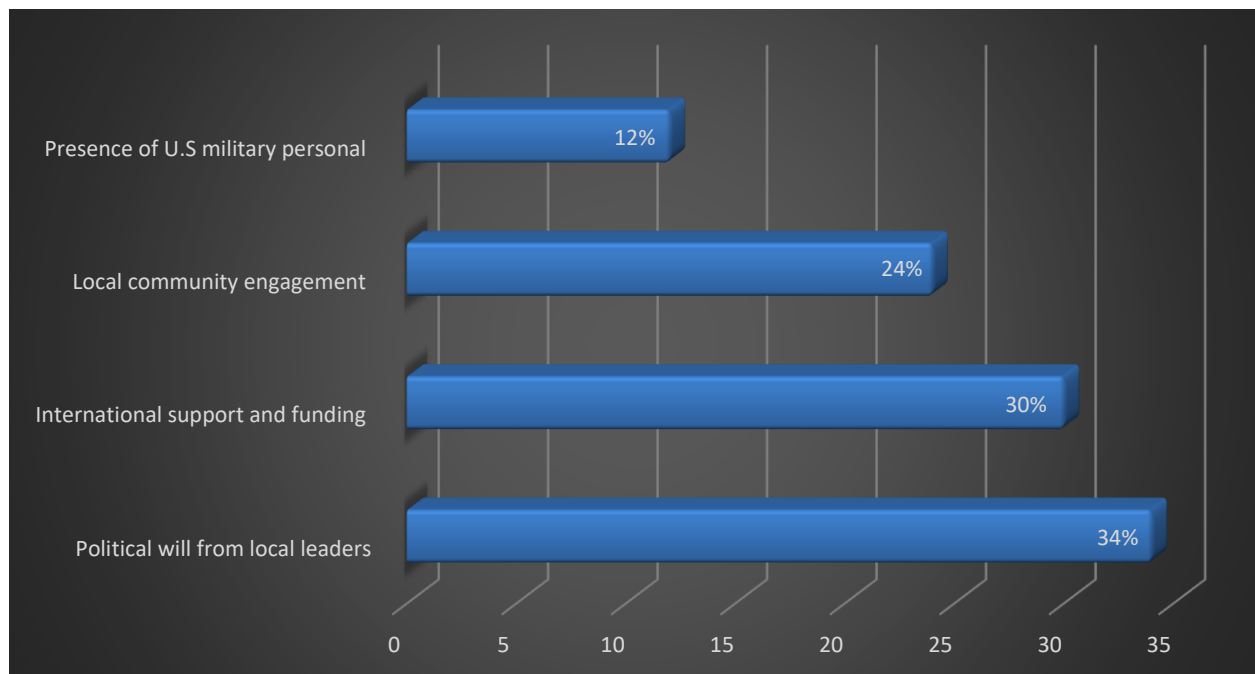


Since its independence in 2011, South Sudan has faced significant challenges, including ongoing violence and instability. U.S.-backed peacekeeping efforts aim to stabilize the region and support its political processes. This analysis examines survey data assessing perceptions of the effectiveness of these efforts. As of the research objectives, to gauge public perception of the effectiveness of U.S.-backed peacekeeping in South Sudan. To analyze and interpret the implications of these perceptions based on survey data.

The largest group views U.S.-backed peacekeeping as ‘moderately effective’ 32%. Respondents in this category may recognize both the challenges and achievements of peacekeeping efforts, suggesting a more nuanced understanding of the difficulties involved. Another feels that these efforts are only ‘slightly effective’ 24%. This group may acknowledge some positive contributions but feel that the overall impact is minimal compared to the ongoing challenges faced by the country. While only ‘very effective’ 22% of respondents reflect optimism about the role of international peacekeeping in promoting stability and security, possibly pointing to specific successful interventions. A significant portion of respondents ‘not effective’ 22% believe that U.S.-backed peacekeeping efforts are not effective. This could stem from observed failures to bring about tangible improvements in security or governance in South Sudan. Furthermore, ‘highly effective’ 14% rated the efforts as that indicating a belief that U.S. -backed initiatives have made substantial contributions to peace and stability in South Sudan.

Table 4.13: Which of the following factors do you believe has the greatest impact on the success of peacekeeping in South Sudan?

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Local community engagement	12	24%
International support and funding	15	30%
Political will from local leaders	17	34%
Presence of U.S military personal	6	12%
Total	50	100%



South Sudan, a nation that has faced protracted conflict and instability since its independence in 2011, requires a comprehensive approach to peacekeeping. This analysis examines survey data on various factors that respondents believe impact the success of peacekeeping missions in the country. Research objectives focused on the identification of most significant factors contributing to the effectiveness of peacekeeping in South Sudan. And to analysis the implications of these factors based on survey responses.

Therefore, political will from local leaders' 34%. The highest percentage indicates that the respondents see political will as the most critical factor. Effective leadership at the local level is essential for implementing peace agreements, facilitating dialogue, and mobilizing resources. When local leaders are committed to peace, they can influence their communities positively and promote peace.

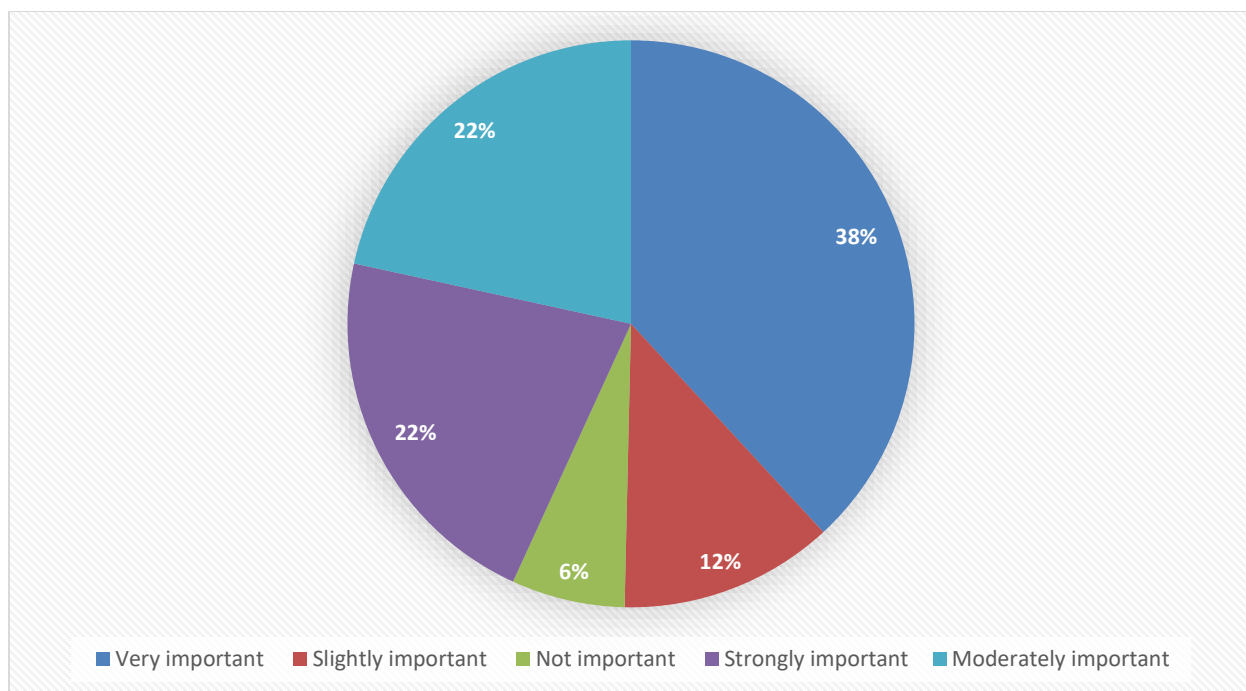
Following the 'international support and funding' 30% of respondents which is a close second importance, this factor underscores the role of external resources and support in peacekeeping efforts. Strong international backing can provide necessary funding, training, and logistics that enhance the capacity of peacekeeping missions. While 'local community engagement' 24% of respondents reported that engagement with local communities is crucial for the success of peace

initiatives. This factor emphasizes the need for grassroots involvement in peace processes, ensuring that the interests of and voices of affected populations are represented.

On the other hand, ‘presence of U.S. military personnel’ 12% of respondents that resulted in lowest percentage, respondents may perceive the presence of U.S. military personnel as less significant in directly influencing peacekeeping effectiveness. While international military presence can deter violence, it may not always contribute to long-term stability without local engagement and support.

Table 4.14: On a scale from 1 to 5, how important do you think it is for the U.S. to engage in capacity-building programs for local south Sudanese institutions?

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Not important	3	6%
Slightly important	6	12%
Moderately important	11	22%
Very important	19	38%
Strongly important	11	22%
Total	50	100%



Capacity-building programs are vital for the development and sustainability of local institutions in fragile states like South Sudan. This analysis examines survey data that gauges how important respondents believe U.S. involvement in these programs is for south Sudanese institutions. To determine the perceived importance of U.S. capacity-building initiatives in South Sudan. To analyze the implications based on survey responses. The largest group ‘very important’ 38% of respondents identify U.S. involvement as very important. Respondents in this category likely understand the challenges faced by south Sudanese institutions and see outside support as crucial for effective governance and stability.

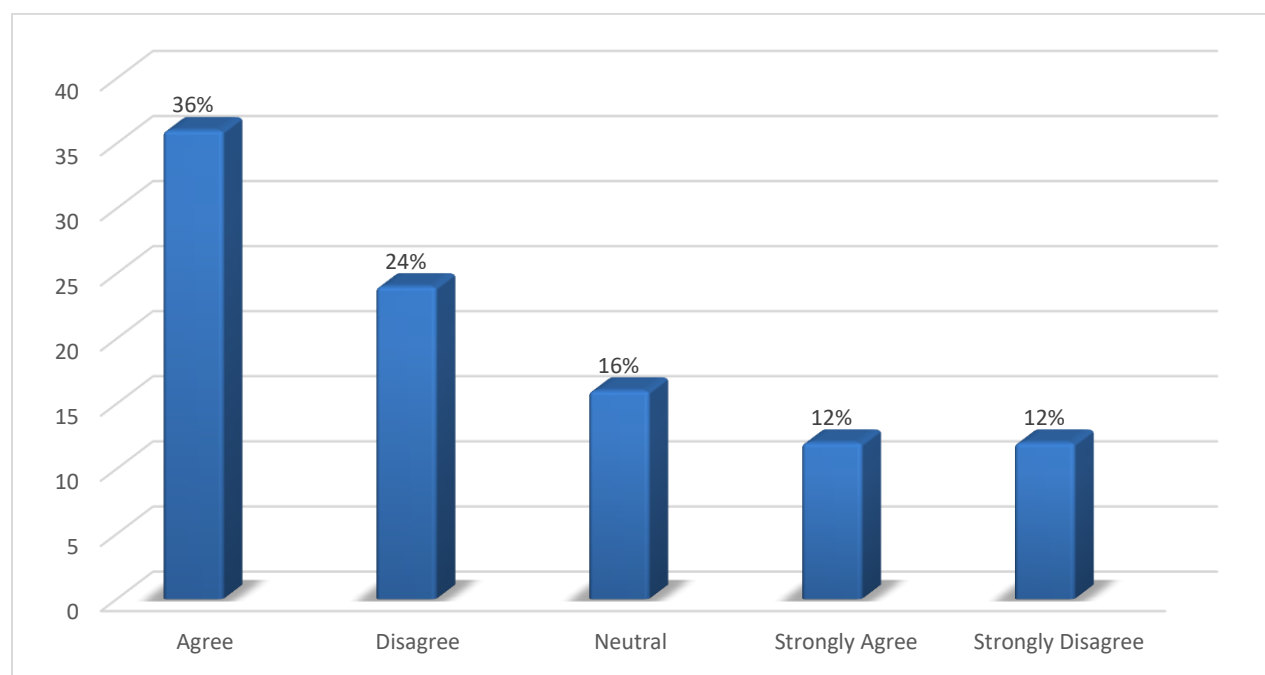
While, ‘strongly important’ 22% of responses has a significant portion of respondents view capacity-building as strongly important. This indicates a strong desire for U.S. investment and partnership in fostering resilient local institutions. Yet, ‘moderately important’ 22% has it’s nearly a quarter of respondents find the U.S. engagement moderately important. This group may recognize the potential benefits of capacity-building but may also emphasize the need for local ownership and initiative.

With the ‘slightly important’ 12% of respondents, this group acknowledges some level of importance but conveys skepticism about the extent of its impact. Concerns may include past experiences with international aid that did not meet expectations. On the other hand, there is ‘not

important’ 6%, a small percentage of respondents believe that U.S. engagement in capacity-building is not important. This perspective may stem from a belief that local institutions can develop independently, or that external assistance may not align with local needs.

Table 4.15: Would you support increased U.S. diplomatic efforts in South Sudan, even if it requires more financial resources?

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	18	36%
Disagree	12	24%
Neutral	8	16%
Strongly Agree	6	12%
Strongly Disagree	6	12%
Total	50	100%



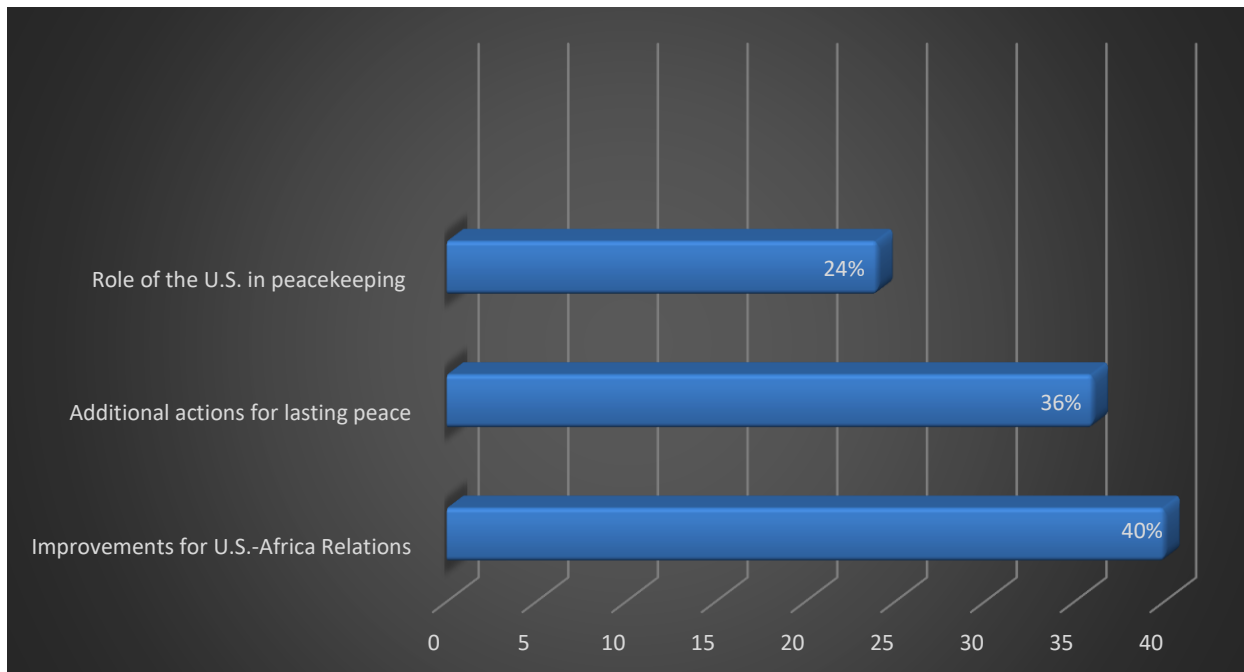
As South Sudan continues to navigate its complex political landscape, the role of U.S. diplomacy is vital in fostering peace and stability. This analysis examines survey data on public sentiment regarding U.S. diplomatic efforts in South Sudan, especially concerning the willingness to allocate more financial resources toward these initiatives. The focus of research objectives is to assess the level of support for increased U.S. diplomatic efforts in South Sudan. To analyze the implications of respondent's attitudes based on survey data.

The largest segment of respondents 'agree' 36% expresses general agreement with increasing U.S. diplomatic efforts in South Sudan. This suggests a recognition of the importance of diplomatic engagement in addressing ongoing challenges and promoting long-term stability. A notable portion 'disagree' 24% of respondents disagreed with increasing U.S. diplomatic efforts, which may stem from concerns over the effectiveness of previous engagements or skepticism about further financial commitments in a complex environment. While 'neutral' 16% of respondents are indicating ambivalence or uncertainty about the effectiveness of increased U.S. diplomatic efforts in South Sudan. This group may benefit from more information on how diplomacy has historically impacted progress in the region.

Respondents who 'strongly agree' 12% show heightened enthusiasm for increased diplomatic initiatives. This perspective emphasizes the urgency and necessity of U.S. involvement in fostering peace and reconciliation in South Sudan. While, like those who disagree, the 12% who 'strongly disagree' may have substantial reservations about any increased financial investments. Their concerns could include prioritizing other domestic or international issues over South Sudan.

Table 4.16. Recommendations and future actions

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Improvements for U.S.-Africa Relations	20	40%
Role of the U.S. in peacekeeping	12	24%
Additional actions for lasting peace	18	36%
Total	50	100



The continues conflict in South Sudan highlights the need for effective peacekeeping efforts, backed by robust U.S.-Africa relations. This analysis presents insights from respondents regarding improvements in relations, the role of the U.S. in peacekeeping, and additional strategies to promote lasting peace. Survey overviews were done through survey individuals provided their perspectives on three key questions concerning U.S.-Africa relations and peacekeeping in South Sudan.

1. What improvements do you suggest for U.S.-Africa relations? (40% of respondents).

Strengthening diplomatic ties- respondents emphasized the importance of building stronger diplomatic relations with African nations through regular dialogue and collaboration. Enhancing diplomatic efforts can lead to better understanding and cooperation on security issues.

Joint training programs- suggestions included developing joint training military and peacekeeping training programs between U.S. forces and African Union troops. Increasing readiness and shared expertise will improve operational effectiveness in peacekeeping missions.

Increased financial support- many respondents advocated for greater U.S. investment in peacekeeping resources and capacity-building initiatives. Financial commitment is essential for supporting sustainable peacekeeping operations.

2. In your opinion, what role should the U.S. play in future peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan? (24% of respondents).

Facilitative role- respondents indicated that the U.S. should act as a facilitator between warring parties, encouraging peaceful negotiations and conflict resolution. A mediator role can help bridge divides and foster dialogue among conflicting factions.

Support for local governance structures- many highlighted the importance of the U.S. supporting legitimate local governance structures to enhance stability. Strengthened governance can lay groundwork for long-term peace and security.

Monitoring and evaluation- respondents suggested that the U.S. should implement mechanisms to monitor peacekeeping efforts actively. Continuing evaluation allows for adaptive strategies based on real-time dynamics and effectiveness.

3. What additional actions or strategies could the U.S. take to promote lasting peace in South Sudan? (36% of respondents).

Community Engagement Initiatives- A strong call was made for the U.S. to support community-led peacebuilding initiatives. Local involvement in peace processes enhances ownership and efficacy in reconciliation efforts.

Economic Development Projects- Respondents pointed to the need for economic development strategies to address underlying grievances that fuel conflict. Investing in economic opportunities can stabilize communities and deter violence.

Collaboration with Regional Powers- Several respondents suggested that the U.S. should work closely with regional powers to create a coordinated strategy for peace. Regional collaboration leverages localized knowledge and strengthens collective action against instability.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND CONCLUSIONS.

Chapter five provides a concise overview and summary of the preceding chapters of this research project on enhancing U.S.-Africa relations to improve peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan. Each chapter contributed to a comprehensive understanding of the complexities surrounding peacekeeping and the pivotal role the U.S. Can play in fostering stability in the region. This chapter will distill key findings from chapters one through four, present recommendations derived from this analysis and conclude with overarching thoughts on the project's implications for policy and practice.

5.1 SUMMARY

Chapter one outlined the historical context of U.S. -Africa relations, focusing on the evolution of these interactions over the decades. It highlighted the importance of strengthening ties between the U.S. and African nations within the framework of global geopolitical dynamics. Key themes included:

Colonial legacy and its impact: the chapter discussed how colonial histories have influenced contemporary relations and conflict dynamics in African nations, including South Sudan (Smith, 2021).

U.S. Foreign policy objectives: the U.S. Objectives in Africa were presented, particularly concerning democracy promotion and counter-terrorism efforts (Jones & Davis, 2020).

The chapter concluded with the assertion that improved relations are crucial for successful peacekeeping operations, setting the stage for further investigation in subsequent chapters. Chapter two, the current state of peacekeeping in South Sudan examined the state of peacekeeping in South Sudan, focusing on the challenges and successes of existing missions. Key points included:

Role of the United Nations and African Union: A review of the peacekeeping mandates from both organizations illustrated the complexity of operating in conflict zones (williams, 2019).

Security challenges: the chapter detailed ongoing security issues, including internal conflicts and humanitarian crises that hinder peacekeeping efforts (Adelaja, 2022). Recommendations included enhancing logistical support and cooperation between international agencies and local authorities to create a more effective peacekeeping

framework. Chapter three, data analysis and respondent insights presented a detailed analysis of survey data collected from respondents regarding recommendations for enhancing U.S.-Africa relations and peacekeeping strategies in South Sudan. Key findings included:

Themes identified: various themes emerged from the responses, such as the need for stronger diplomatic ties, community engagement, and financial support for peacekeeping initiatives.

Respondents' perspectives: the data indicated a strong desire for the U.S. to serve as a mediator and to focus on capacity building within local governance structures (Ngoya, 2023). The chapter emphasized that integrating local insights into peacekeeping efforts is essential for long-term success.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Chapter four synthesized the insights gained from previous chapters and articulated clear recommendations. Key recommendations included:

Economic development initiatives: developing economic opportunities to reduce the underlying causes of conflict (Olivier, 2021).

Community engagement programs: fostering grassroots involvement in peace processes to ensure sustainable resolutions. This chapter underscored the need for actionable strategies that address both immediate security needs and long-term development goals.

5.3 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the research project underscored the necessity for a holistic approach to improving U.S.-Africa relations and enhancing peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan. The main conclusions drawn from the analysis and discussions throughout the project include:

Interconnectedness of issues: the findings confirmed that political, economic, and social factors are interconnected, requiring comprehensive strategies (Johnson, 2020).

Role of the U.S. as a significant actor on the global stage, the U.S. has both the responsibility and the capability to influence positive outcomes in South Sudan through targeted interventions (Kumar, 2022).

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APPENDIX A:

UNIVERSITY OF JUBA

School of Social and
Economic studies
(SSES)



P. O. Box 82, Juba
Atlabara Campus
South Sudan

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Date: 28th 04 / 2025

To Whom It May Concern

To: South Sudan Ministry of foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation

Subject: Request for Data Collection

I take this opportunity to introduce to your good office the bearer, student, MAGDOK MEEN MATHANG. She/he is one of our final year students majoring BSc. in Political Science. Undertaking a dissertation on a freely self-chosen topic is an integral component of a set of approved courses our Undergraduate Students have to sit for at the end of their final year. To achieve the above-average score, the department advised our research students to research thoroughly. This implies that each graduating student has not only to exert positive and productive efforts but also to access sources of data banks wherever they are. Based on this request, the department would be much obliged to you in person for a cooperative spirit of allowing our research students to access your data facilities.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to your kind office for facilitating this request in advance.

Regards,

Mr. Musa Manas Jambo
Head, Department of Political Science
University of Juba

D/ Director

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musamamas@gmail.com

*Please give him
access to premises to
allow him work on his
questionnaire.*



*Mr. John has
taken his data
collection in the
Ministry of Foreign
Affairs and International
Cooperation of the
Republic of South Sudan
on 5th May 2025.*

APPENDIX B:



University of Juba
School of Social and Economic Studies
Department of Political Science

Participant's consent

I am by Name **Magok Meen Mathiang**, fourth year student at the University of Juba. I am conducting research on the “*The Influence of The U.S. -Africa Relations on Peace Making*”. *A Case Study Of South Sudan - Addis Ababa Agreement 2013 -2018*. I am indeed requesting your contribution to make my project complete.

This study is only strictly for academic purposes and any information provided will be kept confidentially since it is for academic use only.

I also want to assure you that your contribution on this research will be highly acknowledged and appreciated for the award of my Degree Program at the University of Juba.

This questionnaire paper consists of four sections only for respondents to fulfill, each section has its sub statement and questions for respondents to fulfill.

Your positive respond and consideration will be highly acknowledged and for more information contact me on the number below.

Thanks, in advance

Signature.....

Magok Meen Mathiang Mayiei

Contact: +211927229696

Section (A): Participant profile, please tick in one of the following boxes below.

1. Gender of the respondent

- a) Male ☐
- b) Female ☐

2. Ages of the respondent

- a) Less than 25 years ☐
- b) 26-35 years ☐
- c) 36-45 years ☐
- d) 46 and above ☐

3. Marital status

- a) Single ☐
- b) Married ☐
- c) Divorce ☐

4. Religion

- a) Christian ☐
- b) Muslim ☐
- c) Other Traditions ☐

5. Educational background of the respondent

- a) Primary level ☐
- b) Secondary level ☐
- c) Diploma ☐
- d) Degree ☐
- e) Masters ☐

6. Occupation of the respondent

- a) Government officials ☐
- b) Businessperson ☐
- c) Employed ☐
- d) Self-employed ☐
- e) Unemployed ☐

Section B: Perceptions of U.S.- Africa Relations

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate your awareness of U.S. - Africa relations? (1= not aware at all, 5= very aware) **Please, put a circle around the correct answer of your choice.**

- a) Not aware at all
- b) Less aware
- c) Neutrally aware
- d) Very aware
- e) Very strongly aware

2. How do you perceive the overall relationship between the U.S. and African nations? **Please, put a circle around the correct answer of your choice.**

- a) Very positive
- b) Positive
- c) Neutral
- d) Negative
- e) Very negative

3. In your opinion, what are the main objectives of U.S. foreign policy in Africa? (Select all that apply)

- a) Economic development
- b) Counterterrorism
- c) Humanitarian aid
- d) Promoting democracy
- e) Other: _____

4. How influential do you believe U.S. policies are in shaping the political landscape within South Sudan? **Please, put a circle around the correct answer of your choice.**

- a) Very influential
- b) Somewhat influential
- c) Neutral
- d) Somewhat uninfluential
- e) Not influential

Section C: Impact on Peacekeeping Efforts in South Sudan

1. How familiar are you with U.S. -led peacekeeping initiatives in South Sudan? **Please, put a circle around the correct answer of your choice.**

- a) Very familiar
- b) Somewhat familiar
- c) Neutral
- d) Somewhat unfamiliar
- e) Not familiar

2. On a scale from 1 to 5, how effective do you think U.S. -backed peacekeeping efforts have been in South Sudan? **Please, put a circle around the correct answer of your choice.**

- a) Not effective
- b) Slightly effective
- c) Moderately effective
- d) Highly effective
- e) Very effective

3. Which of the following factors do you believe has the greatest impact on the success of peacekeeping in South Sudan? (Select one)

- a) Local community engagement
- b) international support and funding
- c) Political will from local leaders
- d) Presence of U.S. military personnel
- e) Other: _____

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important do you think it is for the U.S. to engage in capacity-building programs for local South Sudanese institutions? **Please, put a circle around the correct answer of your choice.**

- a) Not important
- b) Slightly important

- c) Moderately important
- d) Very important
- e) Strongly important

5. Would you support increased U.S. diplomatic efforts in South Sudan, even if it requires more financial resources? **Please, put a circle around the correct answer of your choice.**

- a) Agree
- b) Disagree
- c) Neutral
- d) Strongly agree
- e) Strongly disagree

Section D: Recommendations and Future Actions

1. What improvements do you suggest for U.S. -Africa relations to enhance peacekeeping in South Sudan?

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2. In your opinion, what role should the U.S. play in future peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan?

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3. What additional actions or strategies could the U.S. take to promote lasting peace in South Sudan?

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